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PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

Entered as second-class Matter, June 23, 1909, at the Post Office at Harrisburg, Pa., under Act of Congress, June 6, 1900.

John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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Vol. 25 Harrisburg, February 8, 1940 No. 5

PRICES PAID FARMERS U. S. — PENNSYLVANIA

INDEX of prices paid Pennsylvania farmers according to the Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg, for principal agricultural products decreased one point during the month ended January 15. Prices of most farm products in local markets in the United States averaged higher in mid-January than a month earlier.

Nearly all groups of commodities participated in the advance which raised the index of prices received by farmers 3 points during the month to 99 percent of the 1910-14 level. The index on January 15 was 5 points higher than a year earlier, and the highest since mid-January 1938, when the index stood at 102. Poultry product prices were down, largely seasonally, but all other groups were higher. Advances in most groups were moderate.

Grain prices averaged 90 percent of the 1910-14 level on January 15.

Commodity	Pennsylvania Dec. 15 1939	Pennsylvania Jan. 15 1940	U. S. Jan. 15 1940
Wheat, bu.	$ .94	$ 1.01	$ .845
Corn, bu.	.61	.65	.532
Oats, bu.	.42	.44	.363
Barley, bu.	.58	.60	.459
Rye, bu.	.67	.69	.567
Buckwheat, bu.	.62	.61	.630
Potatoes, bu.	.90	.95	.740
Hay, Ton	11.20	11.90	7.90
Apples, bu.	.65	.70	.73
Hogs, cwt.	6.20	6.20	5.18
Beef cattle, cwt.	7.40	7.60	6.94
Veal calves, cwt.	9.80	10.30	8.95
Sheep, cwt.	3.55	3.60	3.86
Lambs, cwt.	7.90	8.30	7.57
Milk cows, head	77.00	77.00	59.90
Horses, head	119.00	122.00	78.30
Mules, head	129.00	128.00	98.10
Chickens, lb.	.154	.160	.120
Turkeys, lb.	.24	.22	.142
Milk, wholesale	2.25	2.20	1.96
Milk, retail	.115	.115	.104
Butter, lb.	.30	.30	.276
Butterfat, lb.	.29	.30	.300
Eggs, doz.	.262	.221	.183
Wool, lb.	.33	.35	.281

BIRDS IN EGG LAYING CONTEST AT NEW HIGH

THE honor of being second in the egg laying test in the United States goes to the Pennsylvania Egg Laying Contest of the Department of Agriculture now in its ninth year. The status is partially explained in that the average production of over 61 percent since the Pennsylvania Contest started, is nearly 10 percent ahead of the same average for the same period of the 1938-1939 test.

Despite the cold weather the 1,079 competing birds have increased their weekly production. Last week an increase of 145 eggs brought the weekly percentage production to a new high of over 65 percent. The egg size has increased to 23.6 ounces per dozen, in spite of heavy production. This is only four-tenths an ounce short of an average standard egg.

Of the high ten pens to date, four are Single Comb White Leghorns, three New Hampshires, two are Single Comb Rhode Island Reds and one a Barred Plymouth Rock. The Barred Plymouth Rock is the highest ranking pen of the entire group as well as the highest ranking pen of that breed in the entire United States.

The quality of the birds entered in this the 1939-40 test which will conclude September 23rd, is probably as good as has ever been entered by so many breeders all over the country. Fourteen states, including Pennsylvania, have entries as the result of the reciprocal agreement which allows Pennsylvania breeders to enter any of the other 15 official tests in the United States.

The Department of Agriculture, at Harrisburg, gives this breed standardization and advancement project the closest of supervision and supplies the best of feed to obtain the outstanding results that have been witnessed in the several years of operations.

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By the
Department of Agriculture
Harrisburg

URGES DIPPING SHEEP TO DESTROY SCABIES

SCABIES in sheep, commonly known as sheep scab is one of the oldest, most contagious and most injurious diseases affecting sheep. Its history dates back to the earliest ages of civilization, according to Dr. C. P. Bishop Director of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the State Department of Agriculture, who, in discribing scabies and its treatment said:

"It is an extremely contagious skin disease, easily transmitted from one sheep to another and spreads very rapidly from flock to flock.

"This disease is caused by a very small insect-like parasite and when fully grown it measures 1/50 of an inch. They are extremely hard to see with the naked eye. They occur mostly where the wool is the thickest and they are the sole cause of the disease.

"The mite penetrates the skin, sucking blood and serum but it does not burrow. The puncturing of the skin and the sucking of the blood causes intense irritation and an eruption on the skin. This leads to itching, rubbing and biting, finally the wool becomes loose and falls out, leaving bare areas, then crusts and scabs form; hence the name of scabies.

"If your sheep are rubbing, scratching, stamping and biting, consult your veterinarian.

"If the infestation is permitted to gain a foothold and allowed to spread it will cause severe loss to the industry. These losses are caused by a decrease in the wool produced, loss in weight and general condition from the irritation, and death to a large number of the infested flock.

"The only practical way to destroy the pest is by dipping. Two dippings are necessary from 10 to 14 days apart. Dipping consists of immersing the sheep in a medicated solution that will kill the parasites, and this is the only practical method of eradicating the disease.

"All sheep raisers should have adequate facilities for dipping their sheep, as it will not only eliminate scabies but also ticks."

1,105,744 TESTS FOR ANIMAL DISEASES TOP RECORD IN 1939

THE Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, reports that the Laboratory Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry closed the year 1939 with the largest number of specimens ever received and examined by the Bureau Laboratory in one year.

The total number of specimens received during the year was 1,103,873, and from these 1,105,744 diagnoses and reports covering same were rendered. Specimens were received from 26 different species of animals including fowls, a few humans and several miscellaneous materials.

644,208 poultry specimens were examined including 639,126 tests for Pullorum Disease, of which 631,032 were chickens, 7520 were turkeys, 555 were pheasants and 19 were from other fowls.

459,511 diagnoses of cattle diseases were rendered and 459,139 agglutination tests for Bang Disease in cattle were made; also 685 tests for Bang disease in other animal species including 48 horses, 580 goats, 34 swine, 19 humans and 4 dogs.

Besides the agglutination blood tests for Pullorum Disease in fowls 1,646 bacteriological tests for Pullorum disease were made and 3,436 miscellaneous poultry diagnoses were rendered. In addition to the agglutination tests for Bang Disease 152 bacteriological studies for Bang Disease in cattle were made and 220 miscellaneous diagnoses of other cattle diseases were rendered.

1,541 miscellaneous diagnoses were rendered in 15 other species of animals including horses, swine, sheep, goats, elk, deer, dogs, cats, rabbits, monkey, squirrel, guinea pigs, mink, mouse, and a few miscellaneous materials or substances.

PENNSYLVANIA POTATO CROP JUMPS YEARLY

PENNSYLVANIA is forging ahead importantly as a potato producing state. According to the Crop Reporting Service of the State Agricultural Department stocks of merchantable potatoes available in Pennsylvania on January 1, 1940 were estimated to have been 7,775,000 bushels compared with 6,020,000 bushels on similar date last year or an increase over the 1938 figures of 755,000 bushels. The estimated production of potatoes in Pennsylvania in 1939, the department points out was 22,440,000 bushels and in 1938, 22,002,000 bushels.

Stocks of merchantable potatoes available in the entire country for sale, in the hands of growers and local dealers and buyers on January 1, 1940 are estimated by the Agricultural Marketing Service, to have been 103,318,000 bushels. This total is only 232,000 bushels less than the 103,550,000 bushels on hand on January 1, 1939, but is 2 percent below the 5-year (1934-38) average of 105,369,000 bushels. January 1 stocks in the 18 surplus late States are estimated to have been 95,296,000 bushels, compared with 95,669,000 bushels a year earlier. In the 12 other late States, stocks on January 1 were 6,786,000 bushels, compared with 5,870,000 bushels a year earlier, and in the 7 intermediate States 1,236,000 bushels compared with 2,011,000 bushels on the same date last year.

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

Vol. 25 | Harrisburg, February 15, 1940 | No. 6

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PENNSYLVANIA LEADS MANY OTHER STATES IN FARM PRODUCTION

PENNSYLVANIA in 1939, according to a statement just issued by the Department of Agriculture, at Harrisburg, ranked first in the production of cigar-leaf tobacco, second in buckwheat, third in clover and timothy hay and sour cherries, fourth in sweet cherries, maple sugar and sirup, fifth in commercial apples, peaches and grapes, sixth in potatoes, seventh in total tobacco and pears, eighth in timothy seed, tenth in rye, eleventh in winter wheat, oats and hay, and twelfth in corn and cloverseed; and twenty-first in acreage of principal crops harvested.

In value of dairy cows, Pennsylvania stands sixth among all states, being surpassed only by Wisconsin, New York, Minnesota, Iowa, and Illinois, in order named. In milk production, Pennsylvania ranks sixth, and in cash income derived therefrom, third. Volume of milk produced on farms in 1938 was 4,627,000,000 pounds. Dairying leads in farm income in the State, farmers deriving 97½ million dollars from that source in 1938.

Chickens on farms January 1, 1939, numbered 19,317,000, were valued at $18,158,000, and 2,031,000,000 chicken eggs produced during 1938 were worth $41,466,000. In 1937 and 1938, Pennsylvania was first in value of eggs produced. On January 1, 1939, Pennsylvania ranked second in value of chickens on farms; sixth in number of chickens on farms; in 1938 Pennsylvania ranked third in production of eggs on farms, but first in sales, which amounted to almost 36 million dollars.

Pennsylvania has 191,284 farms valued at $861,706,599 according to the 1935 Federal census. The livestock, including poultry, on the farms January 1, 1939, was valued at $161,995,000, and the implements and machinery owned by Pennsylvania farmers are worth upwards to $150,000,000. Therefore the total investment in farms, livestock, and so on is well in excess of $1,174,000,000.

The farm land of the state is so situated as to permit the cultivation of a great variety of crops, since the elevation ranges from practically sea level to 3,000 feet and the crop-growing season from 80 to 207 days. This range makes possible the general cultivation of fruits, vegetables, cereals, and grasses.

Although Pennsylvania is recognized as a great industrial state, yet Pennsylvania agriculture represents a larger capital investment than either mining or the manufacture of primary metals.

In 1938 Pennsylvania ranked tenth among the states in cash income from livestock and livestock products and tenth in cash income from farm production, both crops and livestock. Cash income that year from livestock and livestock products amounted to $190,-[illegible]45,000; from farm production, $200,-[illegible]79,000.

ACREAGE FOR CORN FOR CANNING DOUBLED

GRADING of corn for canning according to the Department of Agriculture, set a new record in 1939, when [illegible]5½ million lbs. were classified, an increase of 2 million lbs. over the 1938 season. Pennsylvania now ranks first in the official inspection of corn for canning.

Announcement is also made by the department that Pennsylvania has recently increased the production of corn for canning from approximately [illegible]000 to 10,000 acres. The quality of Pennsylvania canned corn ranks very high, inspectors say.

A complete report of the inspection of canning crops for the 1939 season is in the course of preparation by the department for free distribution to interested persons.

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WATCH SEED STOCK! POTATO GROWERS TOLD

ACCORDING to the State Department of Agriculture the Bacterial ring-rot disease that was brought into Pennsylvania several years ago on seed potatoes has caused losses up to 30% of the crop. It has become so serious in some sections of the country that the potato acreage and production has declined as much as 50%. This disease is undoubtedly the most serious of any that the Pennsylvania potato industry has had to face for many years.

The department cautions Pennsylvania potato growers to make a thorough study of their seed source even though the seed stock they have been buying has been certified. No seed is certified in Pennsylvania that is grown on farms where plants or tubers infected with bacterial ring-rot has been found, even though the diseased tubers were found in table potatoes. This regulation is not being followed in all other states that are supplying Pennsylvania with certified seed potatoes, although it is generally required that the stocks under certification be entirely free from this disease. Such stocks may not show any evidence of the disease, but the tubers still may be contaminated.

From the evidence accumulated, by the department's Bureau of Plant Industry the principal means of spreading the disease is through the seed stock. Although it may also be carried on the hands, old bags, graders, planters and other equipment, including cellars and storage bins in which infected tubers were stored.

Bacterial ring-rot was first found in Pennsylvania in 1937. Since that time a number of other fields have been infected. A recent nation-wide survey, conducted by the American Pathological Association revealed that the disease has been found in 27 of the 48 states. Those reporting from the various states were almost unanimous that the disease was introduced into their state on seed stock that was brought in from outside sources.

The organism causing the bacterial ring-rot will not live over the year in the soil under our Pennsylvania conditions, but is carried over the winter on the seed. Be cautious when buying seed. Growers using Pennsylvania certified seed can feel confident that they are planting seed from a source that is free from this disease.

The Bureau of Plant Industry recently issued a report on the seed potato certification work, including a list of certified seed potato growers. This list may be secured by writing to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

HALT BANGS DISEASE IN 209 COUNTIES OF SEVENTEEN STATES

PRACTICAL eradication of Bang's disease from dairy and breeding cattle in 209 counties in 17 states has been announced by the Department of Agriculture. The counties were officially listed, as of February 1, as "Modified Accredited Bang's Disease-Free Areas" by Dr. John R. Mohler, Chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry. The following eleven (11) counties in Pennsylvania have been declared Modified Accredited Bang's Disease Free Areas: Butler, Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Crawford, Elk, Forest, Indiana, Jefferson, Sullivan and Venango.

These gains indicate, Doctor Mohler said, that Bang's disease, regarded as the No. 1 enemy of cattle breeders, is yielding to the systematic campaign of eradication now being pressed by Federal and State veterinary officials and livestock owners.

The states and number of counties in each are: Alabama, 3; Arkansas 21; Florida 1; Georgia 28; Louisiana 11; Maryland 2; Michigan 8; Minnesota 2; North Carolina 16; North Dakota 4; Oregon 5; Pennsylvania 11; South Carolina 2; Virginia 72; Washington 6; West Virginia 14; Wisconsin 3. The 209 counties contain approximately 1,560,000 dairy and breeding cattle, six months of age and over.

How Gains are Made

The plan of testing and of designating areas for Bang's disease parallels that used successfully in the campaign against bovine tuberculosis. Gains in supressing the disease are the result of the work done both under the individual herd plan and on an area basis. The regulations provide that whenever results of testing the dairy and breeding cattle six months of age and over, except steers, for Bang's disease, indicate that the percentage of cattle that reacted to the test did not exceed 1 percent of the cattle tested nor the infected herds more than 5 percent of the total number of herds, such a county can be declared a modified accredited Bang's disease-free area for 3 years by the cooperating State and Federal officials in charge of the work, provided that all infected herds shall be placed in quarantine.

The cattle in those herds must be retested at intervals of from 30 to 90 days until all of them pass two consecutive negative tests and also pass a further negative test not less than 6 months from the date of the second negative test. The reactors are, of course, removed from the herds and disposed of in accordance with the State and Federal regulations.

Cooperative Work Began 1934

The State livestock sanitary officials in Arkansas, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Washington have announced previously that some of the counties in those States were qualified as State modified areas in the Bang's disease work. Co-operative State-Federal work to control Bang's disease began in 1934. Work on the area plan is now being conducted in 285 counties in 23 States in addition to those listed today.

Owners of cattle that are slaughtered are partially compensated for the loss, by the Federal Government and the cooperating States. Under the provisions of the Federal regulations the owner cannot receive from the Federal Government more than the amount paid to him by the State or other cooperating agency. The owner also receives the salvage. The Federal payment recently has averaged about $14.50; the State payment $16.20; and the salvage $34.90.

The notice, the department emphasizes as applied to Bang's disease, is the first of its kind issued. As the work progresses the Bureau of Animal Industry will name additional counties in a similar manner.

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MANY INSECTS AID HUMAN EXISTENCE

INSECTS usually get their names on the front page of the newspapers on account of bad reputations. Statements of the damage they do are broadcast by the economists to the tunes of "let us spray" and "swat the fly", according to A. B. Champlain, of the Division of Entomology of the Department of Agriculture. "Statisticians delight in formulating long rows of figures estimating losses caused by these six-legged pests, and if we read and understand, we are appalled by the hideous prospect that appears to loom ahead.

"These wicked depredators represent a menace to our homes and food stores, our crops, our animals and our forests; in fact to our economics in general and perhaps to our very existence. But, although insects outnumber in kinds and species all the other groups of animals combined, most of them are neutral and many of them on our side in this great struggle for existence, is something to be thankful for, if we but know it."

Many Insects An Asset

Many insects, it is pointed out, are an asset to man because they attack, rob, kill and devour other species, which in their own struggle for existence, hold destructive pests in check. Were it not for the good insects the destruction of our crops and all of our possessions by insects would be more continuous and complete. These good insects, according to the bureau, have been exploited and made use of by man, by propogating and disseminating parasites and predators where they can do the most good. For instance, the Colosoma beetle brought from Europe to combat Gypsy moths; ladybeetles imported from Australia to attack certain scale insects and the Chinese praying mantis are outstanding examples of predators. Wasps and flies are brought from Japan and Korea to combat the Japanese beetle menace.

Commercially valuable insects and their products have been used by man since time immemorial. Bee products—honey and beeswax—are prized in every land. Most valuable and beneficial of all of insects are those which pollenize blossoms. There are but few plants or trees that do not depend upon their aid to carry pollen on their legs and back from the stamens of one plant to the stigma of another, thus insuring cross fertilization. Hence production of better fruits and seeds.

Silk is used in the manufacture of countless textiles. Millions of the crawling silk worms or caterpillars are devoting their time and energy that the legs of Eve's daughters might be enticingly adorned.

Shellac, used for many purposes, is originally a resinous substance secreted by a scale insect which lives on the twigs of various trees in warm climates. Cochineal, a dye stuff of scarlet hue, consists of the dried bodies of female scale insects that live on cacti.

Insects are used as jewelry. Beetles with bright metallic colors are made up into tie pins and cuff links. Showy insects, especially butterflies and moths, are used in making ornaments such as lockets and pendants as well as serving trays and pictures.

Many insects directly support human life. It is said that natives of certain lands consider insects a special delicacy. The menu beginning with grasshopper soup, followed by an entree of roasted termites or white ants, is no mythical repast.

Insects of Food Value

The value of insects as food for beast, bird, reptile and fish is known to all. They give our song birds something to sing about and furnish our domestic fowl with an incentive to scratch for a living. The wise fisherman knows many an insect by its first name.

The greatest number of insects are of inestimable value as house cleaners. They are continually on the job reducing to simpler substances incalculable amounts of dead or decaying animal or vegetable matter worn out with age and useless. Every tree or plant that dies is quickly attacked by hosts of insects that reduce them to a form or condition in which they may be utilized in fertilizing and renewing the soil.

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STALLION LAW AIDS STATE HORSE TRADE

ENFORCEMENT of the Pennsylvania state stallion enrollment Law, according to the Bureau of Animal Industry State Department of Agriculture has proven a very effective method of eliminating grade and scrub stallions and Jacks and other stallions that were fraudulently represented as purebreds under various bogus and fraudulent pedigree certificates. Certainly this is a step in the right direction.

The Bureau announces, it seeks to promote harmony and cooperation between the stallion owners and the farmers who have breeding stock, and wishes to take this oportunity to thank the stallion owners and the veterinarians for their fine cooperation in stallion enrollment work. As a result of this cooperation a new record was established in the number of stallions licensed to stand for public service in Pennsylvania during 1939. Four hundred and fifty-three licenses were issued. Of this number sixteen licenses were issued to stand Jacks, and this number represents an increase over the number of Jacks previously listed.

There are still too many men, it is noted, who are not careful in choosing the kind of stallion to which they breed their mares. Because of the cheapness of the service fee, they breed their mares to inferior stallions and are generally disappointed in the progeny. However, many of our mare owners it is asserted, are learning that the use of a good stallion pays high dividends when they come to dispose of the progeny. Aside from this there is a satisfaction in having the type of colts of which they are proud and for which there is a demand.

"17 YEAR LOCUSTS" DUE HERE IN MAY

THIS is not only "leap year" but according to Dr. T. L. Guyton of the Division of Entomology of the State Department of Agriculture it is also "Locust Year." This state, he continued is due this spring to a visit of seventeen year Cicada or "Locust" as they are commonly known. These Locusts will appear in larger numbers than usual in Bedford, Blair, Clearfield, Cumberland, Lehigh, Luzerne, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, Schuylkill and Union counties. It is also quite likely the seventeen year locusts will be scattered in some of the neighboring counties. The right name it was explained is Cicada, not Locust, since Locust should apply to what is commonly known as short-horned grasshoppers. Locust is mentioned in the Bible and should always be thought of as grasshoppers.

It is seventeen years since Locusts have visited this state in a mass or on wing as it is called. Dr. Guyton explains that entomologists who have kept an active record have assigned various groups of cicadas to appear on certain years. These groups are known as broods. The group that will visit Pennsylvania is known as Brood 14. It will also appear in Maryland, West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, Illinois and eastward to Massachusetts.

"It seems certain," Dr. Guyton declared, "that this is the brood which so startled the early settlers in 1634, these settlers never having seen the like before in their native land. Definite records have been made of the brood every seventeen years since 1789. There are several broods occurring in Pennsylvania. Other Locust years will be 1944 and 1945 etc., the seventeen-year Cicada must not be confused with the annual Cicada which occurs every year in the last part of July and through August. This form occurs every year and is never so numerous as the mass visitation of the seventeen-year form.

It has been seventeen years since this particular brood was on the wing. Seventeen years ago the young Cicadas entered the ground and began to feed on the roots of trees. The visitation of the seventeen-year Locust this year will begin in late May or early June when the nymph crawls out of the ground, and climbs up any nearby object such as a tree or post. Then a startling transaction takes place. The skin bursts open the length of the back and the matured cicada emerges. The number which may appear in the given locality may depend upon the number of trees and the exact location and the area covered by this brood.

PENNSYLVANIA CANNED FOODS WORK EXPANDS

PRODUCTION of canned foods in Pennsylvania continues to expand substantially, according to reports received by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

The pack of apples the reports show, and apple products produced in the fruit belt of Pennsylvania has more then doubled since 1936, so that Pennsylvania now ranks as one of the leading apple canning States. Likewise the Pennsylvania pack of tomatoes has doubled in the past few years. Packs of peas, corn, beans, sour cherries and mushrooms have also increased appreciably during recent years.

Pennsylvania Official Egg Laying Counts 10 High Pens to February 10, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points	Eggs
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	B.P.R.	1	1410.65	1402
Foreman Poultry Farm	Michigan	S.C.W.L.	2	1337.25	1321
Burr's Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	S.C.W.L.	3	1336.55	1301
J. J. Warren	Massachusetts	R.I.R.	4	1323.45	1262
Guy A. Leader	York, Pennsylvania	S.C.W.L.	5	1327.70	1330
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	N.H.	6	1321.40	1331
Piko Brothers	Connecticut	S.C.W.L.	7	1311.50	1283
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	R.I.R.	8	1306.60	1290
Hubbard Farms	New Hampshire	N.H.	9	1298.50	1326
Fuzzledele Farms	Pennsylvania	N.H.	10	1288.15	1219

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DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

450 SHEEP LOST UNDER SNOW DRIFTS

UNWATCHED as by shepherds as of old a large flock of sheep, according to reports received by the Bureau of Animal Industry, of the Department of Agriculture, were lost in last week's snow storm near White Church, Greene County. Four days later the sheep after a frantic search were found intact under heavy snow drifts on the high mountain ridges in Centre Township.

When the storm came up, according to the report, the sheep were trapped in the fields. It appears that an effort to get them out failed when a sleigh and horses sent out to rescue the sheep were caught in a huge snow drift and had to be shoveled out.

For four days, a hunt on horse back and on foot was maintained without results. Finally airholes were found in the deep drifts and the rescuers began to dig with the result that the sheep were found huddled together underneath.

The sheep fortunately for them were Merinos. By nature the wool on this type of sheep is very thick and this warm covering saved the sheep from freezing. When found the sheep had not tramped each other down and their warm breaths had opened air holes in the drifts.

It was said by the Department that a sheep has enough natural fat in it's system to provide nourishment for three or four days under such conditions.

While the entire flock was found intact many of the sheep were weakened by the exposure and their rescuers hauled food to them for a distance of eight miles before herding them homeward.

AID PORK PRODUCTION BY KILLING PARASITES

THE Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Industry, Division of Miscellaneous Diseases, announces that parasites are a common cause of unthrifty pigs Swine raised on the same ground year after year become infested with swine parasites

Many animals die as the result of parasitic infestation while others having lesser degrees of infestation show general unthriftiness and are not profitable to maintain It requires a much longer time and considerably more feed to raise a parasitic animal than it does one which is not infested with parasites.

The Bureau suggests the following hygienic measures be adopted to control and prevent parasitic infestation: Plow, rotate, or crop hog grounds in alternate years or provide a clean free range on which swine have not previously been maintained for at least a period of a year or more. Keep pigs out of filth and mud.

Provide pure drinking water. Avoid dirty feeding places. Arrangements should be made so that pigs are farrowed in clean and disinfected pens. When weaned they should be placed on ground which has not been contaminated.

Preventative measures if instituted will be of material aid in profitable and economical pork production.

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STATE AGENTS AFTER OLIVE OIL FRAUDS

THE State Department of Agriculture, through the Bureau of Foods and Chemistry, today warned prospective purchasers of olive oil to purchase only well known brands from reputable dealers.

Agents of the Department have recently uncovered sales of adulterated olive oil in several parts of the State. Some arrests have already been made and others are pending.

A concerted drive is being made on purveyors of adulterated olive oil by Federal, State and local officials. The United States Department of Agriculture was recently successful in a prosecution in Baltimore, Maryland, charging the adulteration of olive oil.

Prosecutions are also pending in the City of New York. Adulterations uncovered to date appear to be confined to the so-called blends of olive oil with such oils as cottonseed and peanut oil. The latter two can be purchased at a much cheaper price and blend ideally with olive oil.

Every container of olive oil or blends of olive oil with other oils is required by law to declare information as to the identification of the manufacturer, packer, distributor or wholesale dealer. Purchasers should insist that containers comply with this requirement.

The best precaution for prospective purchasers is to patronize only reputable businessmen in their community. Any suspicious circumstances surrounding the purchase of olive oil should be reported at once to the State Department of Agriculture.

NOW IS TIME TO GET BEE EQUIPMENT READY

NOW is the time of the year, the Department of Agriculture advises, to prepare hives and supers for the active bee season. Repair and paint all extra hive bodies, covers and bottom boards and assemble extra frames for improving your colonies in the Spring. Colonies must be prepared prior to the main honey flow.

Examine your colonies in April and remove old heavy combs and combs with drone brood. Replace these with combs with worker cells or with frames with full sheets of foundation. Replace hive bodies that need repairs or painting, with good sound equipment. Unite weak or queenless colonies.

Have your colonies in condition so that the combs can be easily removed without harm to the bees or combs. A colony of bees on straight combs is easily inspected and manipulated for the production of honey.

For further instructions of the proper preparation of bees for inspection, write to the Bureau of Plant Industry. Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

APPLE CANNING MAKES BIG GAIN IN STATE

RECENTLY Pennsylvania has advanced to a foremost position in the canning of apples and apple products, both in quality and quantity, the Department of Agriculture announces. Reasons given are:

1. The preponderance of varieties grown in Pennsylvania orchards particularly well adapted to canning purposes.
2. Nearness to the largest Eastern U. S. markets.
3. Particular stress on quality by Pennsylvania canners.

The Department points out that inspectors have been located at Pennsylvania Apple Canneries for the past twelve years during the harvest season, to grade deliveries from growers, thus enabling the canners to pay premium prices for top quality raw apples.

This grading process has encouraged producers to grow better fruit. During the 1939 season nearly 79 million pounds of apples for canning were graded by State inspectors. An increase of 41% over the 55 million pounds graded in 1938. This apple grading places Pennsylvania in first rank in the official inspection of apples for canning.

It is noted that complete report of the "Grading of Canning Crops in Pennsylvania—1939" is now ready for free distribution, and will be sent to interested parties on written request.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNT 10 HIGH PENS TO FEB. 17, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points	Eggs
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	1494.60	1482
Foreman Poultry Farm	Michigan	SCWL	2	1413.40	1392
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	3	1408.30	1414
Burr's Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	4	1407.00	1367
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	5	1401.50	1400
J. J. Warren	Massachusetts	RIR	6	1397.90	1326
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	7	1380.50	1348
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	8	1368.30	1348
Hubbard Farms	New Hampshire	NH	9	1365.85	1391
Fuzzydale Farms	Pennsylvania	NH	10	1360.65	1286

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO FEBRUARY 17, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Ave. Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1940, all 13 birds	62.24	86.37	87.14	23.8
1939, all 13 birds	52.99	74.52	74.19	24.1
1938, all 13 birds	50.57	68.88	70.79	23.5

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PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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FIRST AID TO LIVE-STOCK AND POULTRY

First of series of articles on medical and surgical aid by Dr. H. C. Kutz, Bureau of Animal Industry, Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg.

FREQUENTLY, the causes of sickness or injuries in farm animals can be readily corrected or prevented by good judgment and proper care. Serious diseases and death among farm animals may occur because of lack of knowledge and unsound farm management practices. Every farmer should have some knowledge about first-aid medical treatments for emergency cases of sickness or infection of live stock and poultry on the farm.

It is not the purpose of this article to advise any particular treatments or medicines in connection with the various phases of emergency cases. Frequently minor sicknesses in livestock may be passed over lightly only to develop into incurable diseases and death of the animal. Prevention of disease is basically the foundation for healthy livestock.

Infectious and transmissible diseases cannot be controlled or eradicated by unscientific procedure and it is here where the veterinarian becomes the guardian and conservator of all livestock and poultry life on our farm. The counsel and remedial measures necessary to carry this out is the function of the veterinarian who is professionally and scientifically qualified to prescribe the necessary medical care.

The indiscriminate use of drugs and various use of cure-all medicines are to be discouraged for the reason that eventually untold harm may result. In all cases of livestock and poultry troubles or disease, the farmer will be the gainer by consulting his veterinarian as the old saying, "An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Pound of Cure," holds true even in this mechanized and modernistic world.

Ailment of Farm Horses

Taking the horse as the initial motive power on the farm, we will consider some of the common ailments of the farm horse. Lameness is quite prevalent and this may be due to various causes, as for instance, stone bruises while working in the fields. Irregular stones wedge between the frog of the hoof and the branches of the shoes. It is corrected by removing the stone and if the lameness continues then you should have your veterinarian examine the hoof as the final result may be a stone bruise of the sensitive structures of the hoof sole and this condition requires the expert attention of your veterinarian.

Another type of lameness is caused by horses stepping on nails. The point of the nail generally punctures the sole of the hoof near the point of the frog. If this is the trouble, remove the nail using a pair of pliers, if necessary, and with a pocket knife, cut a small hole in the sole of the frog so that you can tell where the nail punctured the hoof. Your veterinarian should be called so that he can properly treat the hoof and administer a dose of tetanus antitoxin to the horse so that tetanus or lock jaw does not develop.

Various types of lameness due to twisting of the leg joints accidents or strains should have veterinary attention. Collar or shoulder bruises, galls or sores are best treated by medical attention and if large hard tumors develop you should have your veterinarian remove them surgically. Colics in horses cover a multitude of intestinal ailments. No hard and fast rule for giving medicines can be advised. The first thing to do is to place the horse in a well bedded large stall and call your veterinarian. Do not walk the horse as this may only aggravate the condition.

Minor Injuries to Horses

Injuries of various types cause considerable trouble in horses. Kicks, badly cut legs from mowing machine cutter bars, barbed wire, interference cuts on legs, sharp stones, etc. Injuries of this type should be cleaned with an antiseptic solution and if necessary, bandaged with strips of muslin or other available material. When considerable hemorrhage is present, the farmer should place a tourniquet around the leg above the joints or another part of the leg and this can be readily done by using five or six strands of binder twine and wrapping them tightly around the leg.

Another tourniquet can be made by cutting a one and one-half strip of rubber out of an inner automobile tube, about three feet long and wrapping this around the leg carrying one knot only. The contraction of the rubber will stop the hemorrhage or slow it up sufficiently that a good blood clot forms. Fractures of legs are difficult to treat but in any event, it is well to call your veterinarian to determine if the fracture can be repaired by means of a splint or a cast. Fractures in young animals respond very nicely to treatment.

Another condition occurs in horses after standing idle for some length of time and we refer to azoturia, commonly called black water, kidney paralysis, etc. This condition always occurs in good fleshed horses which have been on full feed and have not been worked for several days. It also occurs in the spring after horses have been well fed all winter, and is frequently fatal to horses but there are several things that a farmer can do to materially assist in saving the horse. Some of the first symptoms noted is a profuse sweating shortly after the horse is started to work. In fact, it may develop into a white lather.

Hind Leg Knuckling

Another characteristic symptom is a sort of knuckling over in one hind leg and the owner may think the horse has gone lame from some other cause; the horse appears to be falling behind. This is the time where common sense is worth money. Azoturia may also effect the front legs but the main thing to do when this condition occurs is to immediately stop the horse and tie him to a tree or fence-post and if possible, cover with blankets and immediately call your veterinarian. Never try to walk the horse to the barn for the reason that the more you move the horse, the weaker he gets and eventually he drops to the ground and death may result. In a good many cases, azoturia can be avoided by working or exercising the horses every day of the week and if this is not possible, then the feed should be materially reduced.

In the summer time horses may be affected while working in the fields with sun-stroke, heat-stroke or exhaustion. The horse should be moved into the shade if possible, and cold water applied to the head while a call is made for your veterinarian. Collars and harnesses should be kept clean and the shoulders of the horse should be washed every day after returning from work with water, to remove the perspiration, which is very salty and causes a skin irritation and eventually the shoulder becomes chafed and sore.

Treat Horses Kindly

To get the best work from your horses, treat them kindly and keep them clean and during the extreme hot weather your horses will appreciate a drink of water after they have finished eating their hay at night. A good practice is to water sparingly at noon before feeding, then before going to work, and the same in the evening with the exception of an additional watering about 8 or 9 P. M.

If meadows or pastures are handy to the barn, horses enjoy having pasture freedom so they can roll and eat some nice juicy green grass. This also assists nature in keeping the horses' digestive tract functioning properly. Horses are subject to many other conditions and diseases, some are highly infectious and in all cases it is well to consult your veterinarian.

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Inaugurated and Conducted By the Department of Agriculture Harrisburg

EASTER EGG DYE AND CANDY MAKERS WARNED AGAINST IMPURITIES

THE State Department of Agriculture through the Bureau of Foods and Chemistry is conducting its annual investigation into the sale of Easter egg dyes and Easter candies. Manufacturers of Easter egg dyes who have offered their products for sale in Pennsylvania during past years have been requested to send samples of the products, they propose to offer for sale during the current season, to the Department laboratory at Harrisburg. District agents at the same time are obtaining samples of dyes from the open market.

Scientists of the Department during the next few weeks will devote their attention to the chemical analyses of Easter egg dyes to determine that those offered for sale in Pennsylvania are harmless, non-toxic and non-deleterious to health. Distributors and retail merchants are cautioned to purchase Easter egg dyes only from reputable manufacturers. Citizens are warned to purchase dyes only from reputable merchants.

The Department is also investigating the sale of Easter candies and urges caution in the purchase thereof.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS
10 HIGH PENS TO FEBRUARY 24, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	1579.10	1562
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	1492.75	1496
Foreman Poultry Farm	Michigan	SCWL	3	1487.45	1462
Burr's Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	4	1478.10	1434
J. J. Warren	Massachusetts	RIR	5	1473.90	1396
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	1472.35	1468
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	7	1451.00	1414
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	8	1433.45	1409
Hubbard Farms	New Hampshire	NH	9	1428.60	1451
Fuzzydele Farms	Pennsylvania	NH	10	1427.90	1348

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO FEBRUARY 24, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds	50.75	72.78	74.60	23.5
1939, all 13 birds	53.85	79.74	79.17	24.1
1940, all 13 birds	62.44	91.25	91.79	23.8

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PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE LIBRARY MAR 18 1940

FIRST AID TO LIVE STOCK AND POULTRY

Second of series of articles on Medical and Surgical aid by Dr. H. C. Kutz, Bureau of Animal Industry, Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg.

CATTLE on the farm are subject to many ailments and in order to have a healthy herd of dairy cattle, it is to his advantage that the farmer be acquainted with some of the common ailments. Every dairy barn should be equipped with a maternity or hospital stall and if practical, it is better to have a separate building exclusively for this purpose. These stalls are also convenient to use for other cases, as for instance, sick horses and cows, hogs or sheep. They should be about twelve or fifteen feet square, well lighted with no feed-boxes or racks and easily cleaned and located in the barn where plenty of sun-light will have access to the stall.

Parturition or calving often presents considerable difficulty to the dairyman. In some cases where the calf is normally presented with the feet protruding, a little assistance to the mother may be necessary by simply grasping a leg and pulling easily while the cow is in labor. In cases where the cow is in maternal labor for a period of an hour or two and the calf is not born, it is advisable to call your veterinarian.

Do not let any so-called cow midwife explore the womb of the cow as this only complicates delivery and possibly infects the cow so that your veterinarian may not be able to make a normal delivery. The use of ropes, tackles, levers and super manual power is conducive of more harm than good with resulting sterility and possibly death of the cow. Retained after-birth (fatal membranes) should be treated only by your veterinarian.

Udder Intensely Inflamed

Following calving, the cow may develop a congestion of the udder and if no infection is present, this soon passes away after several days' milking but when the udder is intensely inflamed or hot, it is well to have your veterinarian prescribe for the condition which may be one of the initial stages of the various types of mastitis. There are several types of mastitis, commonly called garget. Some are amenable to treatment and others leave the cow defective in one or two quarters and she becomes unprofitable and it may be necessary to dispose of her for beef.

Some types of mastitis are spread to other cows by improper cleaning and sterilization of the milking machine cups. The use of a strip cut, or some pan or basin painted black on the inside should be used before each and every milking so that if any abnormal condition of the milk is shown by discoloration, flakiness, stringiness, or a curdle; immediately the cow should be removed from the milking line and isolated for further examination by your veterinarian.

A rather common ailment in cows is parturient paresis, the so called milk fever. This is a misnomer in that the cow does not have any fever but just the opposite in that the temperature is sub-normal. This condition may occur previously to calving or shortly after normal calving and according to recent investigation it is caused by a diminution or lowering of the calcium content of the cow's body; a changed body metabolism takes place. The symptoms generally noted are loss of consciousness and inability to remain in the standing position.

The cow is down, head turned to one side and not responsive to any notice or prodding to get her to stand. In former years, this condition was treated by inflating the udder with a hand pump or automobile tire pump but this frequently was the cause of mastitis, due to pumping dirt and infection into the cow's udder. This old custom has been discarded and now your veterinarian gives a more scientific treatment. Parturient paresis may be complicated with other conditions and when nervous symptoms, and muscle twitching or delirium is present, acetomenia may be suspected, but in either case your veterinarian will give the proper treatment.

When Calf Is Born

When the calf is born, the owner should immediately remove from the calf's nose and mouth, any shreds or portions of the fatal membrane in order to enable the calf to breathe, also remove from calf's mouth, inside, any pieces of the fatal membrane or gelatinous exudate; if the above is not carried out, the calf may suffocate and die. Frequently, respirations in the calf are not very noticeable and to stimulate breathing, grasp the calf by the hind legs and swing or shake a little and rub the calf's body vigorously; this generally produces the desired results, then place the calf within easy reach of the mother so that she can give it her maternal attention. Diarrheas in calves are caused by dietary troubles or bacterial infection and the correction should be left to your veterinarian.

Digestive bloating in cattle is very common, due to early morning or late afternoon grazing in clover, or alfalfa. This is best avoided by keeping the cattle out of these fields or letting them graze only during the middle of the day. In case of a severe bloat, a rope should be passed thru the cow's mouth and tied over the head like a loop. This causes the cow to chew and may help in belching of the gas from the paunch or rumen until your veterinarian can treat the case. Ordinarily indigestion should be watched carefully and in no instance should the cow be drenched with salts. Broken legs should be handled the same as horses.

Mashed or Cut Teats

Teats cut or mashed should be cleaned with an antiseptic solution and call your veterinarian who will give the proper treatment so that the teat is not permanently injured for milking. Sore teats and hard milkers should not be tinkered with. This applies to the insertion of various types of teat tubes that cause more damage than good, in a majority of cases.

While not pertaining to this particular theme, it may be well to consider the bull, from the stand-point of safety to the owner. The bull should be kept in a large box stall and have access to a large well constructed exercising yard. Do not permit the bull to run with the cows or heifers and do not consider him gentle and docile. This type of bull does not exist. In other words, safety first, with the bull.

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Inaugurated and Conducted
By the
Department of Agriculture
Harrisburg

FOOD MANUFACTURERS MUST GET LICENSES

THE State Department of Agriculture today through its Bureau of Foods and Chemistry warned operators of bakeries and ice cream plants and manufacturers and vendors of oleomargarine that they are now subject to prosecution if they have not renewed their licenses for the year 1940.

Bakery operators are subject to a fine of $25.00 and costs of prosecution; operators of ice cream plants, $50.00 and costs of prosecution and manufacturers and vendors of oleomargarine, $100.00 and costs of prosecution.

The fee to manufacture oleomargarine is $1,000.00 per year; to sell at wholesale, $500.00 per year; to sell at retail, $100.00 per year; for use in hotels, restaurants or dining rooms, $50.00 per year; for use in a boarding house, $10.00 per year.

The fee to operate a bakery is graduated from $5.00 to $20.00 per year and is based upon the total consumption of flour, flour substitute, flour mixture or potatoes used per week in the bakery regardless of the points of distribution. Hotels, restaurants, tea rooms, dining rooms, etc., who manufacture bakery products for consumption by their customers with their meals are required to be licensed. Persons using less than 51 pounds of flour per week are exempt from the licensing requirements of the law.

The fee to manufacture ice cream is graduated from $10.00 to $100.00 per year based upon the number of gallons manufactured in the preceding calendar year. Those exempt from the licensing requirements of the law are hotels, dining rooms, boarding and eating houses where ice cream is produced and consumed only on the premises; a farmer making and selling ice cream from the products of his farm; and social, fraternal, charitable, educational, religious and beneficial organizations.

Agents of the Department of Agriculture will begin prosecutions at once where operators are found without current licenses.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS 10 HIGH PENS TO MARCH 2, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	1663.85	1642
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	1568.30	1570
Foreman Poultry Farm	Michigan	SCWL	3	1556.80	1527
Burr's Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	4	1554.10	1505
J. J. Warren	Massachusetts	RIR	5	1543.75	1460
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	1537.25	1529
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	7	1526.35	1484
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	8	1501.60	1473
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	9	1499.75	1522
Hubbard Farms	New Hampshire	NH	10	1494.30	1514

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO MARCH 2, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13	50.94	76.75	78.45	23.6
1939, all 13	54.06	85.00	84.07	24.2
1940, all 13	62.58	96.07	96.38	23.8

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PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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Vol. 25 Harrisburg, March 21, 1940 No. 11

FIRST AID TO LIVE STOCK AND POULTRY

THIRD and last of series of articles on medical and surgical aid by Dr. H. C. Kutz, Bureau of Animal Industry, Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg.

Sheep are affected with many diseases, gastro-intestinal parasites cause considerable damage to sheep and this condition is controlled by good flock management which calls for rotation of pastures and systematic drenching. Ewes during lambing should be provided with good clean pens and baby lambs must receive good protection.

There are no first-aid treatments for poultry but in cases where any of the flock show signs of sickness they should be isolated immediately and your veterinarian should be consulted for any infectious or contagious diseases.

Sudden deaths of livestock or poultry should always be investigated for the probable cause and no one is better qualified to do this, than your veterinarian.

Frequently, there are outbreaks of acute infectious disease, such as Anthrax, along certain streams of water, Black Leg, Hemorrhagic Septicemia, and others.

Poisoning of Cattle

Poisonous plants such as Water Hemlock commonly known as (Musquash-Root, Beaver Poisoning, Childrens Bane, Snake Weed, Spotted Parsley, Muskrat Weed, Cowbane, and Death-Of-Man). Bracken Fern, Black Nightshade, White Snakeroot, Wild Black Cherry and others may cause death. Poisonous plants should be dug up and burned. In any suspected case of poisoning call your veterinarian immediately in order to locate the specific cause. Another cause of cattle poisoning comes from careless disposing of paint containers. It is the safest thing to see that all paint containers are destroyed and not kept around the barn and thrown out in the pasture-field or woodland where cattle may have access to them. Poisoning from lead requires special antidotes and your veterinarian must be called immediately or the cattle will die before treatment can be administered.

Cattle may die suddenly from nails or pieces of wire passing from the paunch or stomach into the heart and for this reason owners should use every caution in seeing to it that no foreign bodies of any type get into the feed bin.

There are many other emergency cases where first-aid treatment is not practical and many individual animals as well as whole herds may be saved from serious outbreaks of disease if qualified assistance is obtained promptly.

WATCH FOR APPLE TREE TENT CATERPILLAR

HOME owners and others interested in preserving the beauty of their shade trees according to Dr. T. L. Guyton Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg, should now be on the lookout for the egg masses of the Eastern Tent Caterpillar. This is an old offender which occurs in distinctive numbers in certain districts of the state each year. Through the winter-time the eggs of the insect are found in masses containing from 300 to 400 eggs. These masses usually completely encircle the limbs about the size of a lead pencil. The Apple, Wild Cherry and Plum are the favored fruit trees and it is on these trees that the egg masses are most frequently found. Early in the Spring these eggs hatch and the small worms migrate to the first limb crotch they can find and there begin their silken tent. These tents are quite conspicuous since they are nearly white in color.

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The larvae "worms" are social, and all those hatching from an eggcluster remain together and at once start to form their silken nest or "tent." This "tent" is added to from day to day as the larvae increase in size. The larvae remain in the nest during storms and the warmer part of the day, going out in the early morning and evening to feed. The full grown larvae are about two inches long. They leave the trees before pupating, choosing some sheltered place for transformation to this inactive stage.

The cocoons are made of closely woven white silk. (This silk is given a yellow color by a yellow substance said to resemble starch.) They are oval in shape and are held in place by a few irregular coarse threads. The moths emerge from the cocoon, in Pennsylvania, about the second or third week of June; and the eggs are laid soon after, which do not hatch until the following spring.

Apple Tree Tent

The apple tree tent caterpillar is held in check by a long list of natural enemies. The enemies account for the years in which the insect is rarely noticed. A reduction of the tent caterpillar results in a reduction of natural enemies. This condition in turn gives the tent caterpillar a chance to increase until again checked by an increase of natural enemies.

In the orchards which are well sprayed with arsenate of lead for the control of codling moth and curculio, tent caterpillars are rarely troublesome. On trees which are not regularly sprayed, a careful watch should be kept for the egg masses. These should be removed and burned. The nests are easily destroyed by wiping out with the hands. This should be done when the caterpillars are in the nest, which is usually on a cool wet day. Burning out the nest may result in much damage to the trees hence is not recommended. As has been said, wild cherry is a favorite food plant and when growing as a weed they should be cut down since such trees serve as centers of infestation.

To protect trees with a spray use arsenate of lead one and one-half pounds to fifty gallons of water. Or a dust composed of one and one-half pounds of arsenate of lead and eight and one-half pounds of hydrated lime may be used. Apply as soon as the tents are noticed.

347 RABIES CASES IN STATE LAST YEAR

RABIES in dogs, other animals and humans has occurred in Pennsylvania, according to Dr. C. B. Bishop, Director of Bureau of Animal Industry, State Department of Agriculture, during the last forty or more years. The disease usually is confined to certain sections and during the last several years rabies has occurred in only approximately one-third of the counties, although it has shifted during the different years from one section of the State to another.

"From January 1, 1939 to December 31, 1939," Dr. Bishop said 347 positive cases of rabies in animals were reported as a result of examination made at the Laboratory of the Pennsylvania Bureau of Animal Industry.

"The disease is spread," Dr. Bishop continued "through the bite of infected dogs; occasionally cats and other biting animals. There is no danger in a dog from the standpoint of rabies unless the dog has the disease. This can be quite accurately determined by confining the dog under the supervision of a local veterinarian. Dogs infected with rabies usually die within five or six days after the appearance of symptoms. In the case of death within a 10 day period the brain should be forwarded for examination to the Pennsylvania Bureau of Animal Industry Laboratory, Harrisburg, Pa., P. O. Box 403.

"Rabies occurs during every month of the year, during both the winter and summer months. Monthly records of cases diagnosed in the different seasons usually show more cases during the winter than during the summer season. One of the difficulties in guarding against outbreaks of this disease is due to the fact that too many people are unaware of the danger that exists.

"The control of rabies is dependent upon the proper authority and supervision over all dogs. There is plenty of evidence that rabies has been successfully controlled and eliminated from a number of areas by the proper execution of sanitary police measures, including the elimination of the uncontrolled dog. The **chief disseminator** of this disease is the **stray and ownerless dog and those owners who allow their dogs to run at large.**

"Full cooperation from the public in keeping their dogs under control at all times will greatly assist the sanitary police officials in accomplishing a difficult task."

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS 10 HIGH PENS TO MARCH 9, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	1740.80	1714
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	1644.20	1643
Foreman Poultry Farm	Michigan	SCWL	3	1630.55	1596
Burr's Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	4	1624.50	1570
J. J. Warren	Massachusetts	RIR	5	1612.50	1523
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	1602.80	1591
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	7	1599.45	1552
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	8	1565.95	1533
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	9	1561.10	1581
Hubbard Farms	New Hampshire	NH	10	1555.05	1572

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO MARCH 9, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13	51.09	80.70	82.26	23.6
1939, all 13	55.30	90.23	89.04	24.3
1940, all 13	62.68	100.88	100.94	23.9

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PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

Entered as second-class Matter, June 23, 1909, at the Post Office at Harrisburg, Pa., under Act of Congress, June 6, 1900.

John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

Vol. 25 | Harrisburg, March 28, 1940 | No. 12

ROUNDWORM IN HOGS IS WARNED AGAINST

THE common roundworm, Dr. C. B. Bishop, Director of the Bureau of Animal Industry, State Department of Agriculture, points out is one of the most mischievous parasites found in swine. It is particularly injurious to young pigs. Digestion is deranged and growth retarded. Many die from the direct effects of the parasite, numbers are reduced to worthless runts, so weakened as to fall easy victims to secondary diseases. Direct invasion of the liver by way of the bile duct is not uncommon. The parasite also has a migratory phase by which the lungs of the victim may be injured.

"Sanitary measures" Dr. Bishop continues "aimed at the prevention of infestation are the best defense. The chief danger lies in ground polluted by continuous occupation. Hog lots should be changed annually. Two or three years being allowed between each occupation. Young pigs should be farrowed in special pens. As early as possible they should be moved to clean pasture and the sow removed after weaning.

"Avoid the indiscriminate use of drugs particularly those administered in feed. Consult a veterinarian first."

EUROPEAN CORN BORER IN PENNSYLVANIA

SINCE the finding of the European corn borer in 1920 in Erie County, according to the Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg, the insect has spread to include practically all of the State. Last fall's surveys, conducted by the State and Federal Departments of Agriculture, included certain fields in the western, central and eastern part of the State.

The farmers in the western and central part of the State have had the corn borer long enough to find out how to live with it and keep the rate of infestation low enough to prevent damage. This is accomplished by clean-up of corn refuse before the first of May and the delaying of the date of planting the corn. In areas where the corn is cut low and put into the silo, the corn borer has never been able to build up a population sufficiently high to cause any damage.

A few fields in the western and central part which had been planted early showed an infestation of as much as 9 infested stock out of 100. The insect in the western and central part of the State seems to be entirely single brooded. In the eastern part of the State, particularly along the Delaware River, there is a rather heavy infestation in which there is undoubtedly a two-generation strain of the borers.

A survey made in late September, showed as many as 84% of the plants infested with borers and as high as six borers in a single stock. The average of ten fields, chosen at random in Bucks County, showed 31 stocks infested out of 100 with an average of nearly three borers per infested stock.

The European corn borer was accidentally introduced into this country in imported broom corn which came to a manufacturing plant near Boston, Massachusetts, and another the plant near St. Thomas, Ontario, Canada. The farm practices and methods of growing corn in the corn growing area of Canada, which is just north and west of Lake Erie, seemed to be particularly favorable to the borer, and in a few year's time the insect had increased to such an extent that it destroyed outright most of the corn planted in that area. This destruction lasted for three or four years and was only brought under control by the enforced destruction of all corn remnants in the area before the first of May each year. These counties are now growing corn but each year the growers make certain that these control measurers are put in practice.

The heavy infestation in the eastern part of Pennsylvania calls for prompt action and growers should consult their county agents and extention workers to find out approved methods of doing this work.

Some state experiment stations have been working on the matter of insecticides for the control of the borers on roasting ears. These stations recommend the use of sprays containing rotenone. This material, however, is too expensive to be used on a large scale.

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STATION WHP
HARRISBURG

Tune in Daily—6:30 A. M.
Except Sunday

Inaugurated and Conducted By the Department of Agriculture Harrisburg

GRADING OF STATE CROPS INCREASE

GRADED products valued in excess of $5,000,000 were sold by Pennsylvania fruit and vegetable growers during the past marketing season, according to the Department of Agriculture of Pennsylvania. This was an increase of $1,000,000 over the value of graded products the year previous.

In commenting on the season, the Department of Agriculture reports that Pennsylvania producers have packed under Federal or State grades a larger quantity of produce than in any previous year. Department records show that 4350 carloads of fruits and vegetables were inspected by state-licensed inspectors compared to 4,000 cars a year ago and 269,000,000 pounds of cannery products compared to 193,000,000 pounds in 1938.

The Department of Agriculture announces that the demand for Pennsylvania products has been greatly increased, in both fresh and canned, because of higher-quality and proper classification of the farm products.

GROWERS WARNED AGAINST POOR SEED

SUCCESSFUL potato producers according to Department of Agriculture of Pennsylvania, are becoming more aware each year that the seed they plant may be the limiting factor in the production of a profitable crop. Seed buyers are urged to demand some means of identification, such as a certification tag, bearing the inspector's and grower's name, especially when purchasing other than from the producer direct. One should not be misled by such terms as "approved," "as good as certified," or "one year removed from certified."

Such seed is often stock that has failed to meet certification requirements. All seed potatoes bearing the Pennsylvania certification tag have been inspected for grade at packing time, and the fields, producing these potatoes, were also inspected during the growing season for the presence of disease and varietal mixtures.

There is another good reason to be careful in selecting your seed potatoes this spring. A new disease known as Bacterial Ring Rot has recently been very destructive to the potato crop in some states and in Canada, resulting in losses of 30% to 50% of the crop. It is known to be spread through the planting of infected seed and by the use of bags and equipment which have been in contact with diseased tubers. There is no tolerance for this disease by certifying agencies of the various states a fact which reduces the chances of its being spread through certified seed channels.

It is not only important to have good seed, but it is also important to obtain a variety that is well adapted to the locality in which it is to be planted. This adaptation is due partly to disease resistance and partly to the ability of certain varieties to flourish under adverse weather conditions, such as heat and drought. In the so-called Rural group there are varities which have a wide range of adaptation. Varities like the Cobbler, Katahdin and Chippewa are being grown quite extensively in this state and are apparently well adapted to Pennsylvania condition.

Certified seed potatoes as grown in mountain counties of Pennsylvania have all been rogued at least two to five times by a competent roguer, who goes through the field row after row, removing all undersirable plants and tubers. Some seed growers follow a more exacting method of eliminating diseased and undesirable strains from their foundation seed stock by a process known as the tuber-unit method. For this type of improvement, individual tubers are selected from the seed stock and each tuber cut into four pieces and planted by hand in individual units of four seed pieces to the unit. The roguing operation is simplified when all seed pieces from a single tuber are planted side by side with a blank space between units. In roguing this kind of a seed plot all four hills are removed if a single plant in that unit is diseased.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS 10 HIGH PENS TO MARCH 16, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	1817.40	1786
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	1723.45	1718
Foreman Poultry Farm	Michigan	SCWL	3	1701.05	1663
Burr's Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	4	1693.35	1634
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	5	1674.10	1622
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	1673.95	1658
J. J. Warren	Massachusetts	RIR	7	1672.55	1578
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	8	1630.80	1593
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	9	1624.95	1562
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	10	1620.45	1638

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO MARCH 16, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13	51.21	84.58	86.04	23.7
1939, all 13	55.85	95.27	93.83	24.3
1940, all 13	62.72	105.55	105.37	24.0

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

Vol. 25 | Harrisburg, April 4, 1940 | No. 13

NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
APR 8 - 1940

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS 10 HIGH PENS TO MARCH 23, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	1901.25	1865
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	1799.75	1791
Foreman Poultry Farm	Michigan	SCWL	3	1770.35	1727
Burr's Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	4	1757.30	1693
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	5	1748.30	1691
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	1740.95	1721
J. J. Warren	Massachusetts	RIR	7	1738.15	1638
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	8	1708.10	1639
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	9	1698.60	1656
Hobbard Farms	New Hampshire	NH	10	1687.70	1697

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO MARCH 23, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds	51.30	88.43	89.77	23.7
1939, all 13 birds	56.28	100.20	98.50	24.3
1940, all 13 birds	62.95	110.68	110.17	24.0

ARTIFICIAL COLOR NOT PERMITTED

RECENT chemical analysis of bakery products by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has revealed the addition of artificial yellow color or other yellow ingredients giving the false appearance of butter and egg richness. Since this is a violation of the law regardless of the labeling, the Department has warned bakers against such practices under penalty of prosecution. Several bakers have already been arrested and fined for this violation.

Yellow color in bakery products must be the result solely of the use of butter and eggs. Bakers should not purchase yellow shortenings until certain of their legality which information can be obtained by contacting the Bureau of Foods and Chemistry, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg, Pa.

PENNA. RANKS 13TH IN SEED POTATOES

SEED potato production in Pennsylvania has grown to one of considerable proportions. The certification service was first made available to Pennsylvania growers in 1921 when 1,000 bushels were produced. Since that time approximately two million bushels have passed all field inspections for certification. Although practically 100% of these potatoes have been planted in Pennsylvania by Pennsylvania farmers, this does not represent a very large portion of the total bushels of seed used by our growers.

Approximately three million bushels of potatoes are planted each year in this state while on the average less than 200,000 bushels of Pennsylvania certified seed are available.

In 1939 Pennsylvania ranked 13th in the production of all varieties of certified seed potatoes in the United States with a total production of 183,000 bushels. The eight varieties certified were grown in 13 counties. These varieties, in the order of bushels produced are as follows. Russet Rural, Brittany, White Rural, Katahdin, Pennigan, Bliss Triumph, Chippewa, and Irish Cobbler.

Pennsylvania farmers spend at least eight million dollars annually for seeds to grow various farm crops according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. When the importance of seed quality is considered along with seed cost, we have a combination which constitutes one of the major cogs in the machine which makes crop production a success or failure.

UNCONTROLLED DOGS A MENACE

THE photograph below illustrates the damage which occurred recently when two dogs raided a chicken coop and killed thirty-five (35) chickens.

The Pennsylvania Dog Law of 1921 was enacted as the result of efforts of persons to provide a lawful way to protect their property from the depredations of uncontrolled dogs and a means of obtaining compensation for such losses. The present Law is the result of years of such efforts.

Every effort is being made by the Bureau of Animal Industry, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, to efficiently and reasonably enforce the Law. Considerable damage, however, continues to be caused by the uncontrolled dog.

The placing of a license tag on a dog will not stop it from doing damage; neither will tagging a dog exempt the owner from prosecution if the dog is not properly controlled.

It is not a pleasant and profitable experience to be prosecuted for violating the Dog Law, or to be held for damages caused by a dog. Neither is it pleasant or profitable to have dogs raid and injure or kill your livestock or poultry, or to otherwise damage your property.

See that your dog is licensed and wearing its tag at all times. Keep your dog under control. Make your dog an asset and not a liability. Do not hesitate to call the attention of local police or constables where dogs are running at large—a menace to the public and its property. The real cause of this menace is not the dog, but the neglect of the owner.

SELECT SHRUBS WITH CARE

AS SPRING approaches and the time to get out and plant things is at hand, those who contemplate beautification of the home grounds are cautioned by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg, in regard to the type and quality of nursery stock and other plants used. Few things add so much to the attractiveness and satisfaction of the home as even a modest planting of well chosen and properly arranged ornamental plants. Yet many are the disappointments of those who set out with much enthusiasm and hope. Perhaps a majority of these disappointments are due to the failure of plants to grow. Poor condition of the stock when received from the nursery and neglect of watering later on are perhaps the chief reasons for most of these failures. Securing the plants from nearby growers who can supply them at the nursery or guarantee delivery in a fresh condition is the surest safeguard against poor condition at planting time. Plants which are taken direct from the nursery and carefully transplanted before the roots have chance to dry out, very seldom fail to grow satisfactorily if given reasonable attention later on.

Pennsylvania is fortunate in being well supplied with growers of nursery stock adapted to Pennsylvania conditions; in fact, there are more than a thousand nurserymen scattered throughout the state who are in position to meet any demand for spring planting. Perhaps the greatest source of disappointment in planting of home grounds comes through the purchase of bargain roses and other small shrubbery. Most of these cheap roses are "spent" stock which has been discarded by greenhouse men in order to make way for young vigorous plants. In other words, these "spent" plants have served their period of usefulness as bench roses and therefore cannot be expected to produce satisfactory results when planted in the open. In addition they invariably reach the buyer in a very dried out condition and very often will not respond to the best of treatment. Purchases of all forms of nursery stock are most satisfactorily made from growers whose stock receives regular annual inspection and certification by the Department of Agriculture; in fact, it is illegal to sell nursery stock in this and most other states unless it has been inspected and certified as free from pests.

QS107
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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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APR 17 1940

POULTRY PROGRAM HIGHEST IN YEARS

THE Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture announces that the Poultry Standardization Program, formly called Breed Improvement Work, has reached the highest mark in fifteen years of existence. Last Fall 358,509 birds were handled for breeding qualities on 518 farms located in more than 40 counties of the 67 in the State. Only twice before has the work reached the three hundred thousand bird total.

In 1924 there were only 5 farms with 3,100 birds participating in the Program which at that time was in the experimental stage. The increase has been steady with the exception of the years 1932 and 1933 when the poultry industry felt the effects of the economic depression. Since that time the trend has been decidedly upward.

The standardization of birds into Supervised, Certified and Record of Performance classifications, according to production and breed requirements, provides a means of producing baby chicks of dependable quality for the protection of the average farmer. The mandatory feature of testing for pullorum disease adds to the effectiveness of the program because of the elimination of carriers of the dreaded malady that often takes a heavy toll of baby chicks.

The Record of Performance stage of breeding development was instituted in 1927 and has shown rapid progress each year with the greatest improvement coming in 1939. The average number of birds included in the supervision of home trapnesting has been around 5,000. Only a few years ago the number qualifying was twelve to fourteen hundred birds. In 1939 with the same number entered 2,304 birds in 19 flocks qualified with production of 200 eggs or more averaging 24 ounces to the dozen. A total of 114 inspections of two days each brings the inspector to the flock where birds are trapnested. The total recorded production for the 365 day period is carefully checked and the average of body and egg weights taken into consideration to qualify the individuals for special breeding pens.

The standards developed and checked by the Department of Agriculture affords the average chick buyer with a guide to use in making satisfactory purchases of foundation breeding stock.

PENNSYLVANIA NINTH IN CASH INCOME

PENNSYLVANIA stands ninth among the States in total cash income derived from farm marketings in 1939, according to preliminary estimates, as announced by John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. The Keystone State with an estimated income of over $264,000,000 is outranked only by the following States in the order named: Iowa ($590,000,000), California ($553,000,000), Illinois ($485,000,000), Texas ($442,000,000), Minnesota ($333,000,000), Ohio ($314,000,000), New York ($309,000,000), and Wisconsin ($226,000,000).

EXAMINATIONS OF APPLES

DURING the 1939 apple harvesting season, the State Department of Agriculture today announced that approximately 1300 samples of apples had been obtained by its agents and analyzed in its chemical laboratories.

Where samples were found to contain spray residue in excess of the tolerance allowed by law, growers and shippers were required to wash the apples after which new samples were obtained and analyzed to determine whether residue came within the tolerance.

The Department maintains a branch laboratory at Arendtsville, Adams County, in the heart of the apple growing region where most of the analyses of this type are conducted. Twenty-four hour service was given the growers in the season just completed.

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DESTROY DESTRUCTIVE SCALE INSECTS

THE Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture advises that the next week or two will be the last opportunity for nurserymen, home owners and fruit growers to carefully go over their shrubbery for the presence of scale insects and make dormant applications for the control of these destructive pests. The rose bush, lilac, various varieties of Juniper, apple, peach, pear and euonymus are a few of the plants which are most susceptible to attacks of scale insects and it is desirable that these should be carefully examined at this time.

Control measures should be applied at once, using one of the oil emulsions or missible oils now found on the market under various trade names. The recommendations of the manufacturers of these materials should be carefully followed in making the application. Liquid lime sulphur has long been used for the control of certain of these scale pests.

HEALTH EXAMINATIONS FOR BAKERY EMPLOYEES

THE State Department of Agriculture called attention today to the requirements of the Pennsylvania Bakery Law that no person who is afflicted with a communicable disease or skin affliction shall be employed or permitted to work in a bakery. Each employee is required to be examined at least once every six months by a duly licensed physician who shall issue a certificate showing the employee's freedom from disease or affliction, and said certificates are required to be kept on file in the Bakery.

Persons and employees required to be examined shall be understood to mean all those persons having direct contact with the production and handling of bakery products and the ingredients thereof. Certificates may be revoked at any time by the Department of Agriculture or local health authorities if the condition of the holder warrants such action. Strict compliance with these requirements will be enforced.

NEW INSECT PEST REPORTED IN PENNA.

THE Comstock mealybug, one of the scale insects, found its way into Chester County, Pennsylvania in 1939 according to entomologists of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. It is reported that this new pest was first found in this country in 1917 in New York City feeding on Osage orange. It is also known to feed on umbrella catalpa and apple trees.

The insect became numerous enough in Virginia in 1934 to be classed as a serious pest. Damage resulted from the feeding of the scale on the sap of the trees and from the fungus which develops on the fruit and foliage causing the leaves to drop and the fruit to be lowered in grade.

The insect's eggs are deposited in the fall in cottony wax masses in cracks and crevices. Under Virginia conditions there are three broods each year and each female may lay from 300 to 400 eggs.

The Dept. of Agriculture is concerned as to the spread of the insect in Pennsylvania and requests orchardmen and other citizens to report to the Department insects found of the above description, so that studies may be made and control methods adopted.

ALL CATTLE IN U. S. NOW T. B. TESTED

THE Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has received word that every herd of cattle in the United States has now been tested for tuberculosis at least once. The last herd to receive its initial test was in Stanislaus County, California. The first herd of cattle to be officially accredited in the cooperative federal-state campaign against the disease was the U. S. Soldiers' Home herd in Washington, D. C.

In recent months the principal zone of activity against bovine tuberculosis has been in a group of six counties in central California. All other counties in the state, and in the United States have already qualified as "modified accredited areas."

During the progress of the nationwide campaign a total of more than 220,000,000 tuberculin tests have been applied. This number, greatly exceeding the number of cattle in the United States at any time, represents numerous retests and, of course, changes in the herds resulting from births, deaths, and sales of animals for various purposes. During the steady reduction of the disease through systematic testing and removal of reactors, a total of approximately 3,750,000 cattle have been sent to slaughter.

The tuberculosis eradication campaign in the United States is the largest undertaking of its kind in the annals of agriculture and the veterinary profession. The continued activity will consist in periodic retesting in order to detect promptly any cases of the disease, thus providing a safeguard against any material reinfection.

The last initial test for tuberculosis in Pennsylvania was applied to a herd in Lancaster County on May 15, 1935 and on December 16, 1936, the infection of bovine tuberculosis in Pennsylvania was reduced to less than one-half of one per cent. Upon achieving this goal the United States Department of Agriculture then recognized Pennsylvania as a Modified Tuberculosis Free Accredited State.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS 10 HIGH PENS TO MARCH 30, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	1982.70	1942
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	1881.30	1868
Foreman Poultry Farm	Michigan	SCWL	3	1834.65	1787
Burr's Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	4	1828.85	1759
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	5	1814.85	1753
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	1806.15	1782
J. J. Warren	Massachusetts	RIR	7	1792.60	1688
Joachin Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	8	1786.75	1712
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	9	1762.90	1716
Hubbard Farms	New Hampshire	NH	10	1751.50	1757

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO MARCH 30, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds	51.38	92.27	93.51	23.7
1939, all 13 birds	56.72	105.20	103.23	24.4
1940, all 13 birds	62.93	115.29	114.52	24.0

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE LIBRARY
APR 23 1940

CONDITION BEES FOR HONEY FLOW

REPORTS received from the Department of Agriculture from many sections of the state indicate serious losses of bees from starvation on account of the low temperatures during February and March. Bees were too cold and inactive to get to their stores if they had any. Colonies should be examined at the first opportunity when they are flying and those which are weak should be united and built up for the main honey flow and for pollination of our fruit trees.

Remember that the amount of surplus honey gathered depends on the condition of the bees prior to the honey flow. Also remember that one good strong colony of bees will produce more honey than two weak ones. If they need feeding, use a warm syrup made up of one part granulated sugar to two parts water. This syrup can be put in a five pound pail, punch a few small holes in the lid and insert over the hole in the inner cover. The pail must be full of syrup or the liquid will run out in too short a time. A few pounds of sugar fed at this time of the year may mean fifty or more pounds of honey at harvest time. Then, too, you will have more bees for pollinating your fruit and other farm crops.

When making this first or succeeding examination of your colonies, always be on the lookout for any discolored combs, irregular brood or any indication of diseased brood. If you are not familiar with bee diseases, send a sample of comb to the Apiary Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg, for examination.

BRAMBLE PLANTS MUST BE CERTIFIED

THE Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture advises growers of Bramble plants that according to the provisions of the Pennsylvania Plant Pest Act it is unlawful to sell or offer for sale any Bramble plants unless they were inspected and certified as provided under the regulations for the certification of such plants. Plants taken from stock that was entered for inspection last spring and certified during the year are now being offered for sale by Bramble plant growers. These plants were examined for disease during the growing season last year and were given an inspection for crown-gall this spring.

Growers wishing to sell Bramble plants which includes, Blackberries, Raspberries, Dewberries and Boysenberries should make application for this service before May 15. The first inspection is made as soon as the plantings are in full leaf and before hot weather sets in. High temperatures mask virous diseases that can only be identified and rogued out of a planting if the inspection is made before hot weather sets in. It frequently happens that growers ask for permission to sell plants that were not inspected. Such permission cannot be given unless the plants were regularly inspected and certified as provided by certification requirements.

A list of growers of certified Bramble plants and application forms may be secured by writing to the Department of Agriculture.

OWNERS of 237 Stallions and Jacks, in Pennsylvania have obtained their 1940 licenses from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture in compliance with the Pennsylvania Stallion Law. Application blanks have been mailed to all known owners and these applications should be returned to the Bureau of Animal Industry, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania so that licenses may be issued in accordance with the law.

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EASTER EGG DYES PROVE HARMLESS

THE State Department of Agriculture announced that a complete survey of all Easter egg dyes on sale in Pennsylvania during the recent Easter season showed that all dyes examined were found to be composed of harmless and non-toxic substances. All manufacturers of Easter egg dyes complied with the request to send samples to the Department of Agriculture of every dye which was proposed to be marketed in Pennsylvania. In addition, agents of the Department obtained samples from the open market which were found to be truly representative of those samples submitted by the manufacturers.

No illnesses attributed to Easter egg dyes or Easter candies have been reported this year. Records indicate that the quality of Easter egg dyes and Easter candies is improving continually.

SLAUGHTER OF HORSES NOT ALLOWED

THE slaughter of horses and mules for human consumption is not permitted in Pennsylvania according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture.

Even though the Department of Agriculture has received several requests during the past several years for permits to slaughter such animals for human consumption, no permits have been granted as the type of horses available for slaughter in this state would be thin, emaciated, worn out, aged animals, very often afflicted with lameness or some chronic diseased condition and unfit for human consumption.

In order to clarify the Pennsylvania Meat Hygiene act the last session of the Legislature amended the Act to read as follows: The term "Unfit for Food" shall be construed to include the carcasses or parts of carcasses of horses and mules and the meat of such animals and the meat food products of such animals.

DESTROY BAG WORMS NOW

IT IS important at this time that fruit, shade and ornamental trees be examined for the presence of a cocoon-like bag, advises T. L. Guyton, Entomologist for the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. These are the old cases of one of the leaf feeders and are commonly spoken of as the bagworm. Inside the larger of these bags are a great number of eggs. These eggs are hatched into small worms within the next two or three weeks and these worms begin to feed on the leaves of the trees on which the bags are now to be found.

Cut off and burn all of these bags being careful to see that you get all of them since there may be more than a hundred eggs in each bag.

Favorite trees upon which they feed are the apple, quince, arborvitae and cedar, although these worms are not at all choicy in their food habits and may feed on nearly any tree.

Should you neglect to get these bags collected of if there are great numbers of them in your vicinity, then it will be necessary to spray your trees with arsenate of lead, using five pounds in one hundred gallons of water, and add flour or some good commercial sticker. The insects are not easy to kill with posion and it is necessary that the spray be used soon after the small worms are noticed.

BABY CHICK SALE ON NOW

THE sale of baby chicks in Pennsylvania has reached a stage of large proportions. Chicks are purchased direct from many hatcheries in Pennsylvania as well as from out-of-state hatcheries and thousands upon thousands of chicks are sold under the auction program of seventy-two public auctions in Pennsylvania, partly supervised by the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture.

To the end that the purchaser of chicks be protected against possible dissatisfaction and fraud, as well as a protection to the legitimate hatcheryman, the Pennsylvania Legislature has conferred authority upon the Department of Agriculture to regulate the sale of chicks in Pennsylvania.

To acquaint vendors as well as purchasers with these regulations the Department states that containers holding chicks, when offered for sale by producers or auctions as a unit in this Commonwealth, must in every case, carry on them the following markings in clear, legible characters; number of chicks, breed of chicks, date hatched, whether blood-tested or not blood-tested, cockerels, pullets, or straight run, name and address of producer and name and address of seller.

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Foreman Poultry Farm	Michigan	SCWL	3	1907.60	1855
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	4	1896.55	1829
Burr's Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	5	1894.85	1820
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	1872.90	1844
Joachin Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	7	1867.90	1787
J. J. Warren	Massachusetts	RIR	8	1843.50	1735
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	9	1834.10	1782
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	10	1821.45	1831

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO APRIL 6, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Ave. Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds,	51.42	96.08	97.18	23.8
1939, all 13 birds,	57.03	110.04	107.78	24.4
1940, all 13 birds,	62.91	119.91	118.90	24.0

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PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

Entered as second-class Matter, June 23, 1909, at the Post Office at Harrisburg, Pa., under Act of Congress, June 6, 1900.

John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

Vol. 25 | Harrisburg, April 25, 1940 | No. 16

NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE LIBRARY 2 0 1940 OF AGRICULTURE

LIVESTOCK DEALERS MUST HAVE LICENSE

LIVESTOCK DEALERS who have not procured their 1940 license are now operating in violation of Act No. 225, under which such licenses are issued, according to the Department of Agriculture.

All Livestock dealers whose activities place them under the requirements of this Act, are urged to secure a Livestock Dealers License immediately.

The 1939 licenses expired December 31, 1939 and, of course, cannot be used for 1940. Agents of the Department are checking weekly the records of Community Sales, Public Stockyards and elsewhere for violations of this Act.

Field agents will be required to enforce violations on or about April 15. Fines from $25.00 to $100.00 and costs can be imposed upon dealers operating without license. Dealers are requested to check their license and act accordingly.

WILL SPEED UP BARBERRY REMOVAL

SEVERE cold and deep snow have interfered with the cooperative program of the Pennsylvania and United States Department of Agriculture to eradicate common barberries from grain growing areas in this state. But with favorable weather a large group of men paid from W. P. A. funds will proceed with the work. Over ten million barberry bushes, upon which the Black Stem Rust Disease must depend for one phase of its development, have been destroyed. Benefit to grain crops particularly in northern dairy counties has already been pronounced. During moist seasons the oat crop in these counties has been reduced by more than one half on account of outbreaks of Stem Rust which originated on common barberry bushes. With the latter eliminated it is not possible for the disease to exist.

BUY CERTIFIED SEED POTATOES

"WHEN buying seed potatoes, don't buy a crop failure," says John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. That successful potato growers have come to recognize this fact is proven by the care with which they select their seed. Transportation charges from a producing area often represents a fair profit to the Pennsylvania growers who use efficient methods, one of which is represented by good seed. Those who purchase certified seed can be assured that it has been actually certified if the container carries the proper certification tag.

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STATION WHP
HARRISBURG

Tune in Daily—6:30 A. M.
Except Sunday

Inaugurated and Conducted By the Department of Agriculture Harrisburg

POTATOES BIG MONEY CROP

SELLING the crop of potatoes produced in Pennsylvania each year adds approximately $25,000,000 to the farm income of the state, according to a recent announcement of the Department of Agriculture.

But the effect of the Pennsylvania potato industry on the entire economic welfare of the State is more involved than the twenty-five million of income alone. The investment of the growers in farms, buildings, equipment and supplies is estimated at nearly $100,000,000. These growers spend $5,000,000 annually for seed, spray materials, fertilizers and other equipment alone. They require the labor of 20,000,000 hours of employed farm help to produce and harvest the annual crop. They use nearly 100,000 gallons of gasoline daily in trucks, tractors and sprayers for which the State tax alone is $4,000 a day. They require 50,000 tons of steel for the annual operation of the farm machinery used to grow, harvest and market the "lowly spud." And, if all these potatoes were hauled to market by train it would require 35,000 freight cars or a train reaching from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh to transport them.

Pennsylvania Apple Growers, who in 1939 produced large crops and who feared they might experience considerable difficulty in disposing of their storage holdings because of the lost export trade, are now reporting to the Department of Agriculture "stock well cleaned up." Some sections of the State are reporting practically all apples sold while others indicate sufficient fruit on hand of the latest-keeping varieties, to take care of the normal trade until the 1940 crop of early apples is harvested.

PRAYING MANTIS HELPFUL INSECT

THE Department of Agriculture cautions all home owners who are interested in protecting their properties against various insect pests to be on the lookout and protect egg clusters of the praying mantis. The name is truly descriptive of the insect both because of the characteristic stance which the mantis assumes and the fact that it actually preys or feeds on harmful insects such as plant lice, caterpillars and soft bodied forms.

The egg cluster of the mantis will be found at this time of the year on small branches of shrubbery, various trees and vines. They are inclined to be irregularly oval in shape, tan colored, about the size of the end of the thumb and with a covering resembling heavy parchment.

Wherever found these egg clusters should be protected since in a few weeks the tiny mantids will emerge and start their campaign against the various harmful insects which make up their bill of fare.

PENNA. EXCELS IN RELIABLE NURSERIES

THE Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture reports the certification of 1,016 Pennsylvania nurseries with approximately 10,000 acres planting stock for the inspection year ending September 30, 1940. This compares with 318 nurseries of about 4,000 acres fifteen years ago. These establishments are well distributed throughout the state so that those who have in mind to plant trees, shrubs, etc., this spring need not depend on plants weakened by nursery movement from far distant points. There is no greater source of disappointment in planting trees, shrubs and other flowering plants than that resulting from the use of stock weakened by long exposure between removal from the nursery and final planting.

DEPARTMENT FIGHTS POTATO WART

ACTIVE field work will soon get under way in continuing the program of the Department of Agriculture to eradicate Potato Wart from Pennsylvania says John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. This disease was introduced from Europe several years ago and so far as it is known is confined to certain parts of Pennsylvania, Maryland and West Virginia. It has already been eradicated from several Pennsylvania communities by means of a method developed by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture at its experimental station located at Drifton, Luzerne County. The presence of this disease in the soil causes the potato tuber to develop into a wart like mass which soon decays causing rot to develop in sound tubers with which the wart comes in contact.

This is one of the few cases on record where it appears possible to actually eradicate an important plant disease from the soil once it becomes well established.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS 10 HIGH PENS TO APRIL 13, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	2137.05	2087
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	2045.50	2024
Foreman Poultry Farm	Michigan	SCWL	3	1982.15	1925
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	4	1973.65	1901
Burr's Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	5	1961.90	1882
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	1945.70	1912
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	7	1944.30	1858
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	8	1902.05	1846
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	9	1894.80	1902
J. J. Warren	Massachusetts	RIR	10	1891.40	1779

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO APRIL 13, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds	51.42	99.86	100.79	23.8
1939, all 13 birds	57.31	114.87	112.31	24.4
1940, all 13 birds	62.88	124.51	123.26	24.2

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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WARNING AGAINST SPREAD OF SCABIES

SHEEP owners of Pennsylvania can protect their flocks against the spread of the serious infection of scabies, if caution is exercised, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

Sheep shearing is now in progress and commercial sheep shearers should be required to properly clean and disinfect all wearing apparel and all equipment before entering the premises of another owner of sheep in order to assist in preventing the introduction of scab into his flock.

Flock owners who notice any suspicious skin condition on any sheep in the flock should immediately call their local veterinarian who can secure the aid of the Department veterinarians if necessary to assist in the eradication of the disease.

This disease can be eradicated from Pennsylvania flocks if proper flock management is practiced by all owners. Scabies of sheep like other infectious and contagious diseases affecting livestock should be reported to the Bureau of Animal Industry, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

CANKER WORMS NOW ACTIVE

ENTOMOLOGISTS of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture report that during the past few weeks adults of the spring canker worm have been observed in wooded areas. Winged males were observed flying about window and car lights during the evenings, while the wingless females were found crawling up the trunks of forests and shade trees by the hundreds. These wingless females are now depositing their eggs and in a short time the small, naked measuring worms will hatch and attack the foliage of our shade and woodland trees. This and other species of forest defoliators will be noticeable in various areas of Pennsylvania's woods. Canker worms may be controlled with arsenate of lead sprays where especially desirable trees warrant the expense.

JAPANESE BEETLE QUARANTINE EXTENDED

THE Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has just announced that the Federal Japanese Beetle quarantine will be continued and the following territories in Pennsylvania are now included in the quarantine area: all of Clarion County, not heretofore under regulations; the Townships of Mill Creek and Wayne, the City of Erie and the Borough of Corry in Erie County—placing Erie and Corry under regulations as isolated points; all Venango County, except the Townships of Allegheny, Canal, Cherry Tree, Clinton, Irwin, Jackson, Mineral, Oakland, Oil Creek, Plum, Scrubgrass and Victory, and the Boroughs of Clintonville, Cooperstown, and Pleasantville.

Restrictions on nursery stock, soil, compost, manure etc., became effective April 5. New regulations, if any, on farm products and cut flowers are not yet announced.

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Inaugurated and Conducted By the Department of Agriculture Harrisburg

HORSE BREEDING ON INCREASE

INTEREST in the breeding of light horses is on the increase in Pennsylvania if records of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture are any indication. New breeds of horses are being imported into the State and for the first time in the history of the Commonwealth a Tennessee Walking Horse Stallion has been licensed to stand for public service. An Arabian stallion has also been licensed together with an increased number of saddle horses.

During the past year several prize winning heavy draft horses have been purchased by Pennsylvania breeders and a number of United States Government Remount stallions have been stationed in Pennsylvania and licensed for service.

With the introduction of good stallions of the various breeds of horses visitors to the Pennsylvania Farm Show and the Harrisburg Horse Show can expect to see more and better horses on display.

Farmers are finding that the breeding of good horses is a profitable undertaking and with this available supply of good stallions of several different breeds Pennsylvania farmers should be able to produce horses for all purposes.

RURAL RUSSET POTATOES LEAD

THE Rural Russet Potato, though declining in relative importance in Pennsylvania, says John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture, is still the leading variety produced in all crop reporting districts of the State, except in the south central and the southeastern, which lie almost wholly southeast of the Mountains. In that area the Cobbler ranks first. The Katahdin is reported second to the Rural Russet in production in Lehigh, the principal potato county of the Commonwealth. Over a ten-year period Rural Russets have declined from 57 percent to 44 percent of the total crop while Green Mountains have increased from 7 percent to 13 percent and Cobblers from 12 percent to 19 percent. Katahdins, though still a small percentage of the total, are growing a favor.

DUTCH ELM DISEASE THREATENS ELM TREES

SINCE the Dutch Elm Disease is seriously threatening the destruction of our elm trees, health in elms becomes a very important factor in preventing the destruction of these trees in Pennsylvania according to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. The disease has spread over an alarming area in Connecticut, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania and has been found in a number of other states including Indiana, Maryland, Ohio, Virginia and West Virginia.

Up to April 1 of this year there had been 250 infected trees removed and burned in Pennsylvania; 10 of these trees were removed in 1938, 230 during 1939 and the balance during 1940. The removal of practically dead wood or wood that shows the first signs of decadence, is considered an important part of the present eradication program. Freshly cut elm wood should not be left lying around in wood piles as it provides an excellent breeding place for the elm bark beetles that are active in carrying the disease. The sanitation program on which the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture is cooperating with the United States Department of Agriculture, provides for the destruction of such breeding places and the removal of trees and branches that are not in a healthy growing condition. Sickly elms should be pruned and fertilized to restore their vigor and health. If they cannot be restored to health they should be removed and burned.

DEPARTMENT CHECKS SEED DEALERS

TO SAFEGUARD the seed supplies for Pennsylvania farmers, agents of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture are now visiting all seed dealers in the state to see that they are observing the Pennsylvania Seed Law according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture.

Wherever there is any doubt as to seeds being offered for sale not meeting the required standards, agents take samples which are then analysed by the Department's Seed Analysts.

The Seed Law enforcement work is of vital importance to Pennsylvania farmers as poor seed may mean heavy loss or the complete loss of a crop.

The Pennsylvania Seed Law required that all seeds offered or exposed for sale shall be labeled to show the kind of seed, percentage or purity, weed seeds present if any, and percentage of germination.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS 10 HIGH PENS TO APRIL 20, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	2218.35	2163
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	2117.60	2092
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	3	2044.10	1967
Foreman Poultry Farm	Michigan	SCWL	4	2043.10	2082
Burr's Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	5	2032.50	1947
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	6	2018.50	1927
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	7	2015.90	1978
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	8	1960.50	1965
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	9	1958.80	1899
J. J. Warren	Massachusetts	RIR	10	1938.90	1823

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO APRIL 20, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Ave. Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds	51.45	103.69	104.45	23.9
1939, all 13 birds	57.56	119.71	116.84	24.4
1940, all 13 birds	62.79	128.96	127.47	24.2

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PULLORUM DISEASE CAUSES BIG LOSS

THE Department of Agriculture, John H. Light, Secretary, calls attention to the loss of baby chicks through disease. The most dreaded of these is Pullorum disease, or bacillary white diarrhea as it was formerly termed, which is primarily a disease of baby chicks. Accordingly it is during the early Spring, coincident with maximum hatching activity, that the disease assumes its greatest proportions.

It is caused by a small rod-shaped germ known as Salmonella Pullorum, and the following cycle of infection is definite and well known. The ovary of an infected hen usually harbors the causative germ, and some of the eggs laid by such a bird contain the germ. These infected eggs, when incubated, produce infected chicks, and these chicks generally infect others that are hatched from non-infected eggs. Not all of the infected chicks die, but some survive and become carriers of the disease. These birds, when bred from at maturity, may in turn transmit the disease through their eggs to the chicks.

Pullorum disease, however, is not in all cases transmitted through the egg. Noninfected chicks may at any time after hatching become infected if they are exposed to pullorum infected birds, or surroundings contaminated with the causative germ.

The symptoms of pullorum disease in baby chicks are not sufficiently characteristic to distinguish it from other ailments. There is very often an accumulation of dried fecal material around the vent, although this may also occur in other disease conditions. The disease most seriously affects chicks during their first two or three weeks of life, and as a rule causes extremely heavy losses.

Accurate diagnosis of pullorum disease is dependent upon the isolation and identification of the causative germ by laboratory methods. When chick losses occur, a veterinarian should be consulted, and if additional aid is desired to establish a diagnosis, the veterinarian may send birds to the Pennsylvania Bureau of Animal Industry Laboratory, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Effective control measures must include that of starting with chicks from breeding stock known to be free of pullorum disease, and maintaining them in such a way that they do not become exposed to any sources of infection.

THE frozen food industry is changing eating habits and affecting markets for agricultural products says John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. A traveler in Florida found, that in the height of the strawberry season there, hotels were using fresh frozen strawberries from the North, and asparagus from New Jersey and peas from Maine. A sizable acreage of vegetables is now grown in Pennsylvania for quick-freezing food plants located in New Jersey, which is the center of the industry in the East. It is estimated that eventually one-third of the vegetables will reach the consumer fresh, one-third canned and one-third quick frozen.

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NEW PLANS SPEED 1940 BEE INSPECTION

PENNSYLVANIA ranks eighth in importance in beekeeping in the United States. There are 24,000 beekeepers owning 160,000 colonies of bees. The last several years 4,000,000 pounds of honey and 60,000 pounds of wax valued at approximately $600,000 has been produced each year. The value of the honeybee in the pollination of our fruit, vegetable, and other crops would be far greater than that of the honey and wax produced. The value of the equipment necessary to maintain the bee population in the state has a value of several million dollars. A systematic plan of inspection work to assist beekeepers and protect them from the damage done by brood diseases has just been worked out by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture following conferences with the Pennsylvania State Beekeepers' Association, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture.

The state has been divided into four areas, and the Department hopes to be able to inspect during 1940 all apiaries in the western area, which includes the following counties: Crawford, Erie, Mercer, Venango, Warren, Forest, Lawrence, Butler, Clarion, Armstrong, Beaver, Allegheny, Washington, Greene, Westmoreland and Fayette

In addition, to the above work, follow-up inspections will be carried out in counties inspected last year and supervision given in cooperation with county Beekeepers' Associations where local funds have been supplied to carry on additional disease control work.

Beekeepers should make requests for Certificates of Inspection for selling queens, package bees and for shipping bees outside of the state, not later than May 15. Inspection requests made after this date may be delayed due to rush of previously arranged work.

CLEANLINESS HELPS IN DISEASE CONTROL

THE Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture says that much has been said about the prevalence of disease among our farm animals, including horses, cattle, sheep, swine and poultry, and the remarkable improvements made in the treatment of domestic animals by scientific discoveries for the prevention and control of infectious and contagious diseases; but little has been said as to what the farmer and stockman can do to prevent or at least control to some extent the ravages of these various animal diseases.

The average stockman and farmer does not sufficiently realize the importance of thoroughly cleaning and disinfecting his premises.

Numerous minute organisms, germs and vegetable growths are ever present, however, unless a serious outbreak occurs, little attention is paid to them, for only by means of the high power microscope are their presence known for they are too small to be seen with the unaided eye.

Under favorable conditions, many of these organisms multiply at a tremendous rate, particularly in the animal body. Many germs are thrown off from the disease-affected animal by coughing, discharges or excretions and deposited in the soil, manure pile, the litter of stables, on the floor, walls, cracks and crevices of the buildings. Here they lie dormant, in some instances, for indefinite periods of time, to be later eaten, inhaled as dust, or gain access to the animal body through a wound.

The average herdsman and farmer does not sufficiently realize the importance of thoroughly disinfecting his premises following an outbreak of a contagious disease, or as a matter of fact to disinfect his premises at certain intervals as a precautionary measure.

To properly prepare a premise for disinfecting, clean the stable (including horse-stable) thoroughly as follows: (1) Sweep ceilings, walls and floor; (2) Remove rotten woodwork and loose boards, particularly of the floor; (3) Remove dried accumulations about mangers, floors and drains; (4) Remove all manure, loosen by thoroughly scraping and removing all wet and dried material; (5) Clean the yard of all manure and remove to field, plowing it in, or if permitted to remain on surface of field, it should be spread lightly. Cattle or swine should not have access to the field until after the sun has had an opportunity to kill all the germs; (6) Scrub the mangers, feed boxes, stalls and partitions with hot water containing strong soap, lye or washing soda.

Common disinfectants that may be used are as follows:

A two percent (2%) solution of Cresol or 1 quart of Cresol to 50 quarts of water.

Compound solution of Cresol two or three percent (2 or 3%) solution or one pint solution to 4 gallons of water.

Chloride of lime, six ounces (6 oz.) to each gallon of water.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS 10 HIGH PENS TO APRIL 27, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	2301.40	2240
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	2194.70	2164
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	3	2113.80	2032
Foreman Poultry Farm	Michigan	SCWL	4	2103.20	2038
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	5	2095.85	1999
Burr's Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	2093.40	2003
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	7	2087.55	2044
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	8	2035.95	2037
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	9	2014.70	1951
Creighton Brothers	Indiana	SCWL	10	2004.55	1958

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO APRIL 27, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds	51.41	107.37	107.95	23.9
1939, all 13 birds	57.77	124.52	121.83	24.5
1940, all 13 birds	62.68	133.35	131.63	24.2

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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ACTIVE AID GIVEN STATE INSTITUTIONS IN EGG INSPECTION

THE Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture takes an active part in preparation and delivery of eggs to State Institutions, according to Department of Agriculture. In 1937 246 cases of eggs were inspected according to the specifications of the Institutional buying departments. In 1938 the amount increased to 541 cases. In 1939 the total of 5680 cases was reached and the present indications point to a decided increase in the program for 1940 with nearly 1000 cases monthly going through the grading and inspection process.

The inspection figures do not indicate the total use by the various Institutions as many of them supplement their purchases by the production of their own poultry flocks. Then, too, only the eastern section of the State is included in the program because of the available inspection service. Western Pennsylvania will be served soon as arrangements are being made to set up a program in the Pittsburgh District.

HONEY BEE INDUSTRY HURT BY COLD SPELL

IN some sections of Pennsylvania, Beekeepers have suffered severe losses due to the late cold period of March and April. The Department of Agriculture also points out that even though bees had sufficient stores, the temperatures were too low for the bees to move about inside of the hives to protect the stores which were there. Losses run as high as 50%. In many cases colonies which have not been killed outright are too weak to build up to sufficient strength to gather honey during the main honey flow.

"Examine your colonies" the Department urges, "any day the bees are flying, and those bees which are weak can be united with the healthy ones. Place a single thickness of newspaper between the hive bodies of the colonies you wish to unite. The bees will gradually gnaw away the paper and intermingle without any excitement and very few bees will be lost. One good colony of bees at the height of the honey flow will produce more honey than two weak ones."

"Brood combs should be examined carefully for disease, if presence of disease is manifested, a sample can be sent to the Bee Inspector, Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania for identification and recommendations for treatment."

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DEPARTMENT READY FOR SEED CERTIFYING

THE Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has for almost twenty years maintained a service in the certification of seed potatoes and for shorter periods for seed wheat, oats, barley, tomato and peppers according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. The object of this service is to make available within the state, dependable seed sources of varieties of these crops which have been found well adapted to Pennsylvania conditions.

Special attention has been given to improved varieties developed at the State College Agricultural Experiment Station or those introduced from other sources, in order that local supplies of these superior sorts may become available as rapidly as possible.

Growers who plan to make application for certification service this crop year should communicate with the Department at an early date. This is especially true of those who have not previously made application in order that they may obtain copies of the rules and regulations covering the seed crop they wish to grow.

NURSERYMEN SHOULD BUY CERTIFIED STOCK

APPLICATIONS for inspection and certification for the year ending September 30, 1941 have gone out from the Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg, to all nurserymen, nursery dealers, and collectors of nursery stock. This inspection and certification is according to the Pennsylvania Plant Pest Act of 1937, which was promulgated in the interest of the nursery stock growers, as well as that of the buying public. All buyers are cautioned to be sure that the source of the nursery stock purchased is from certified premises.

NATIONAL DAIRY SHOW TO AWARD BIG PRIZES

PRIZE money totaling $14,603 will be distributed to owners of America's best dairy cattle at National Dairy Show here in the big Pennsylvania Farm Show Building and Arena, October 12-19, it was announced to the Department of Agriculture by National Dairy Association Officials. Of the total prize money, $7,500 is being offered by the show itself and the remainder is being provided by five national cattle breeders' organizations.

Equally as strong an incentive as the cash prizes are a number of coveted cups and trophies for the grand champion bull, the best advanced registry cow, the best two-year-old heifer in milk bred by exhibitor, the grand champion cow and other outstanding animals.

Announcement also was made last night of the judges who will serve here for National Dairy Show. They are: Ted Fansher, of Missouri; Paul Misner and Guy Harmon, both of Maryland; John Cochrane, of Pennsylvania; Elmer Hansen, of Iowa; C. S. Rhode, of Illinois, and George Newlin, of Michigan.

Arrangements already are started to house thousands of visitors who will attend the first National Dairy Show ever held in the East. The housing bureau of Harrisburg Chamber of Commerce has completed arrangements to accommodate 400 boys and girls judging teams selected from 4-H Clubs from forty states and local hotels report heavy reservations from herd owners, breeders, dairy specialists and others interested in the dairying industry.

BETTER GRADING ADDS TO POTATO QUALITY

NUMEROUS reports from producers, distributors and state agents all indicate that the market for Pennsylvania potatoes has been considerably strengthened and stabilized recently through State Department of Agriculture, by the Extension Service of State College, and by the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association cooperating.

During the past season alone, educational grading meetings and inspectors' schools were held in most every county of the state. As a result of the grading and marketing assistance, Pennsylvania Potato growers are now marketing higher quality potatoes than previously, for which the wholesale and retail distributors and consumers are able to pay a more uniformly high price than formerly.

PENNSYLVANIA ranks first in value and third in number of eggs produced, sixth in number and second in value of chickens on farms, and tops in quality of eggs—the food product that comes in a sealed package direct from the hen. Have you had your energy-producing, health-giving, vitamin-full egg today?

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS 10 HIGH PENS TO MAY 4, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	2382.70	2316
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	2267.20	2232
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	3	2174.25	2089
Foreman Poultry Farm	Michigan	SCWL	4	2170.55	2102
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	5	2169.75	2068
Burr's Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	2165.30	2069
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	7	2159.10	2110
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	8	2105.75	2105
Creighton Brothers	Indiana	SCWL	9	2080.60	2029
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	10	2069.80	2002

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO MAY 4, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds	51.38	111.06	111.50	23.9
1939, all 13 birds	57.99	129.33	125.85	24.6
1940, all 13 birds	62.55	137.68	135.74	24.2

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

Vol. 25 | Harrisburg, May 23, 1940 | No. 20

NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE LIBRARY MAY 28 1940

USE AND ABUSE OF LIMING MATERIALS

THE Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture is charged with the enforcement of the provisions of the Pennsylvania Lime Law, and only official samples are analyzed. The Law permits of the analysis of special samples for manufacturers or producers only, located within the Commonwealth.

Discussing the classification of liming materials, it was emphasized at the department that "under no circumstances should a liming material be construed as a fertilizer. It is a soil amendment, and as such it influences plant growth—not by supplying an element of plant food, but by producing in the soil some effect which is beneficial to plant growth."

Use of lime, furnishes a three-fold effect—First, converting unavailable plant food to available; Second, changing the physical characteristics of the soil; and Third, neutralizing the acids.

Stimulates Plant Growth

"You would not add lime," it was explained by Dr. V. B. Hausknecht, Chemist, "to a soil for the purpose of supplying calcium as a plant food any more than you would add common table salt for the purpose of supplying sodium. The various lime compounds are not applied to replace soil deficiencies but mainly to correct some condition whereby plants will be stimulated in their growth.

"The element Calcium is the main constituent of all liming materials. However, in limestones in which the magnesium may be present to a large degree, like value is attributed with respect to soil neutralization purposes.

"There are four main forms in which lime is applied, namely: Calcium Oxide, Calcium Carbonate, Calcium Hydroxide, and Hydrous Calcium Sulphate or Gypsum.

"Also it has been interesting to note the uses of slag in which the calcium is essentially in the form of silicate, and which has been proven beneficial by experiments conducted.

"Lump Lime, Lime, Quicklime, Burnt Lime. Unslaked Lime are essentially one and the same thing—Calcium Oxide, which is obtained by the burning of limestone rock, during which process the carbon dioxide or gas is driven off, leaving a highly caustic substance known as Calcium Oxide.

"Marl, Ground Limestone, and Oyster Shells are the most common forms in which calcium is applied directly in the form of calcium carbonate, and in this form is most easy of application. You are familiar with the burning sensations produced from having some burned lime alight on your face or hands.

"Slaked Lime or Hydrated Lime is that formed by the addition of water to burn lime or calcium oxide. It is alkaline and is helpful in the destruction of organic matter.

"Gypsum, Plaster of Paris, Land Plaster are mainly calcium sulphate and the ratio of solubility is approximately one part of calcium sulphate to 400 parts of water. Whenever used, it should be finely ground. This also would apply to all liming materials, that the more finely ground the more readily will action take place in the soil.

Law Observance Urged

"All these products come within the provisions of the Pennsylvania Lime Law, passed and enforced for the protection of agriculture. No matter what form or type of liming material used, it is urged to see that it is sold under proper guarantees and labeling. The soil must be first reckoned with. Intelligent use of lime produces satisfactory results, while, if lime is applied merely because it is believed the soil requires it, doubtless it will cause much harm and loss of crops, as well as a loss in terms of dollars and cents. Lime should be purchased only on the basis of the oxide content, that is, the sum of the calcium and magnesium oxides guaranteed.

"In the use of some lime compounds which are known as gas-lime and calcium carbide waste, while these products have agricultural value, but since there is a possibility that these by-products may contain impurities from the manufacture of gases, it is important that the impurities be removed so far as is practicable and possible. Products of this type should be exposed to the air before application is made, or applied sometime before the crop is planted. The impurities from the gas may prove injurious to the seed, and if the above simple precaution is taken better crops will result.

"Use liming materials judiciously-wisely, and note when an unlabeled, unguaranteed product is purchased, it only assists to defeat the purposes and intent of the Law."

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Department of Agriculture
Harrisburg

43,138 MEAT CARCASSES INSPECTED IN MONTH

MEAT Hygiene Division of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg, reports that during the month of March 43,138 carcasses were slaughtered and passed under State Inspection. During the same period 2,477,069 pounds of meat and meat products and 1,233,507 pounds of edible organs, such as hearts, tongues, and livers, were produced.

The Department reports that 32 abattoirs are now operating under official State Inspection. The State College Abattoir located at State College, Pennsylvania, is the latest addition to the growing family. State Inspection was granted to that institution on Tuesday, April 9, 1940. Inspection was withdrawn from two abattoirs recently. One upon request of the owner pending new construction and one for violation of regulations. There are at the present time, applications for State Inspection under consideration by the Department from four other abattoirs.

49,539 CATTLE TESTED IN APRIL FOR BANGS

DURING the month of April, 1940 there were tested for Bangs Disease in this state under the Individual and Area Plans, a total of 49,539 cattle and 1,924 reactors were disclosed, showing 3.9% infection. To date 5,114 herds containing 101,401 cattle are certified as Bangs Disease Free, according to John H. Light, secretary of Agriculture.

Initial testing of all dairy cattle was started in Lawrence County and in five townships in Erie County while similar work was completed in twelve townships of Warren County, eleven townships in Lycoming County and one township in Dauphin County.

Now that fourteen counties are Modified Accredited Bangs Disease Free Areas, and three other counties have been completely tested and five others partially tested, herd owners should not find it difficult to purchase clean animals for addition to their herds.

APPLY NOW FOR 1940 GRAIN CERTIFICATES

GRAIN growers should make application for 1940 inspection and certification of wheat, oats and barley for seed purposes before June 1, John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture, advises. During 1939 agents of the department inspected approximately 3,500 acres of grain and certified over 2000 acres.

Since certification was refused it was pointed out to over 1400 acres of approximately 40.0% of the total acreage entered for certification, grain growers who apply for this service are urged to rogue their fields before they are inspected. Inspections are made after the grain has turned color or just prior to harvest time. Fields that show a mixture of other grains or if weeds are present they should be rogued out. Because of the short period during which inspections can be made it is impossible to make repeat inspections.

In addition to being inspected for disease, mixture and noxious weeds, certified grain is also tested for purity and germination. Grain growers have learned that the highest priced seed is often the cheapest in the end. The protection certification affords it was pointed out is good insurance against losses through crop failure due to poor seed.

Grain growers wishing to apply for this service should write to the Bureau of Plant Industry, Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS 10 HIGH PENS TO MAY 11, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	2460.35	2389
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	2341.55	2302
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	3	2238.05	2132
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	4	2237.40	2148
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	5	2237.25	2183
Foreman Poultry Farm	Michigan	SCWL	6	2224.25	2152
Burr's Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	7	2223.70	2123
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	8	2170.20	2167
Creighton Brothers	Indiana	SCWL	9	2150.80	2095
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	10	2137.45	2065

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO MAY 11, 1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds	51.35	114.73	115.03	23.9
1939, all 13 birds	58.16	134.04	130.28	24.6
1940, all 13 birds	62.41	141.98	139.79	24.2

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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PENNA. ERADICATING GYPSY MOTH

THE most serious pest infesting all fruit, shade and forest trees is the Gypsy Moth. It is prevalent mostly in Luzerne and Lackawanna Counties, according to a statement by the Department of Agriculture. Over a period of nine years, the Department has not only checked the spread of the insect, but has reduced the acreage and intensity of the infestation.

The program of spraying, the important feature of the State and Federal effort to eradicate the Gypsy Moth, is under way and will continue through June. Approximately 120 tons of Arsenate of Lead and between seven and eight thousand gallons of Fish Oil will be used in spraying several thousand own properties and large areas of woodland. Twenty-five high powered spray machines employing close to 100,000 feet of heavy duty hose, will be necessary to reach from available water supplies, cross mountains and valleys to points where the spraying will be done. In some cases over a mile and a half of hose is necessary to reach the outlying infestation.

The caterpillar of the Gypsy Moth is a ravenous feeder and it is in this form that the insect does its damage to foliage of many different kinds of trees. These caterpillars are most prevalent during late May and through June, and it is during this period that the spray material is applied.

In addition to spraying, Federal and State agencies have cleared thousands of acres of worthless forest debris which harbors many egg clusters of the pest and at the same time interferes with spraying and other operations.

Another feature of the work is the banding of tree trunks to trap the caterpillars as they attempt to reach the foliage.

Several hundred unemployed men have been used on this work from the beginning. These men have been selected through the various local Emergency Relief headquarters and are largely paid from emergency funds. They work under the supervision of experienced State and Federal employees.

SEED SAMPLES SHOW IMPROVEMENT

OVER 3000 seed samples have been gathered by agents of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture in the Seed Law enforcement work for the 1940 season throughout the State. This number of samples exceeds by several hundred any previous check by the Department in its Seed Law enforcement work.

John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture, states that every effort is being put forth to safeguard seeds purchased by Pennsylvania Farmers. In checking over the results of the work during a period of years, there has been a gradual trend towards better seeds being offered for sale, and the samples now being analyzed show very few dealers who are offering seeds in violation of the Pennsylvania Seed Law. However, a few cases may warrant prosecution.

In addition to the samples taken by agents in the enforcement work, many farmers have had their local seed analyzed by the Department in order to check the quality of their home produced seed.

1940 LEADS IN ICE CREAM LICENSES

THE Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture reports a gradual increase in the number of Ice Cream Manufacturers' Licenses over a period of the last four years, with 1940 having the largest number of licenses as of date of May 20.

In addition to regular Manufacturers' Licenses, there is also noted an increase in the number of applications for licenses to manufacture Ice Cream by transient producers.

Pennsylvania is a leader in the manufacture of Ice Cream, and the Department of Agriculture is constantly on the alert to safeguard the quality of Ice Cream being offered for sale in the State. Even with a late Spring, this increase in number of licenses indicates that manufacturers are making preparation for a big season in 1940.

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LARGE INCREASE TOMATO ACREAGE

PENNSYLVANIA farmers have contracted with canners and are now planting approximately 20,000 acres of tomatoes for the 1940 canning season, starting about August 15, according to the Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg, Pa. This acreage, if planted up to present expectations, will be the largest in the history of canning in the State dating back to 1840, when the first tomatoes to be successfully sealed in tin cans were processed by H. W. Crosby at Lafayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania. The previous high acreage was the 17,400 acreage planted in 1939.

The department states that the tomato canning industry of the State has recently taken a prominent position in contributing to the cash income of Pennsylvania farmers. Acreage planted to this crop has increased 500% in the past thirteen years, while the cash income from tomatoes has risen from $20,000 yearly to nearly $2,000,000.

The larger percentage increase in cash income over acreage increase is due to increased yields per acre and to higher quality production resulting in increased payments per ton by canners. Much of this improvement in quality is due to the State grading of canning crops in recent years, the Department advises. In 1939, the tomatoes from approximately 93% of the entire State acreage was purchased under official inspection. Canners have indicated that State grading will be used in 1940 to even a greater extent than in 1939.

DESTROY BARBERRY CONTROL BLACK STEM RUST

WORK looking to the eradication of the common or European Barberry and thus stop the spread of the black-stem rust disease—emanating from the barberry, according to the State Department of Agriculture, was recently renewed in the following counties, Bradford, Centre, Crawford, Cameron, Erie, Huntingdon, Lackawanna, Susquehanna, Tioga, Warren and Wayne. Crews of from five to seven men are at work destroying the barberry bushes in these counties.

The black-stem rust disease attacks and seriously affects the growth of oat, wheat and barley crops. The Department of Agriculture began the work of eradicating the black-rust in the fall of 1935. When a barberry bush is found, all the leaves and trash are cleaned away from the crown of the plant and the cleaned area treated with ground rock salt. On very small bushes only a sprinkling of salt is used, while larger bushes require quantities depending on the size of the plant. The salt is spread evenly over and around the crown to a depth of 2 or 3 inches and about 6 to 8 inches beyond the outer canes of the bush.

Much of this work is done in cooperation with the farmers who frequently haul the salt to the crews in the field. Sometimes several neighbors get together and form their own eradication crews under the supervision of a State agent. They not only work their own farms but also clean out bushes on any abandoned land that might be found in the community.

The results of the work are convincing to the farmer in areas where the common barberry was well established. Many farmers from these areas report that for the first time in more than 20 years they were able to grow oat crops that they could thrash. In areas where barberries were thick and the Black Stem-rust disease was severe, farmers were forced to cut their oats while they were still green and feed them in the form of hay. During the last several years in areas that were freed from barberry bushes, the farmers have been thrashing oat crops that ranged up to 50 bushels and more per acre.

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PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS 10 HIGH PENS TO MAY 18, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	2539.00	2463
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	2410.00	2366
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	3	2310.25	2199
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	4	2303.85	2210
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	5	2301.15	2243
Burr's Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	2289.05	2183
Foreman Poultry Farm	Michigan	SCWL	7	2281.95	2206
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	8	2239.30	2233
Creighton Brothers	Indiana	SCWL	9	2212.60	2153
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	10	2202.40	2125

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO MAY 18, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds	51.27	118.27	118.43	24.0
1939, all 13 birds	58.32	138.78	134.72	24.6
1940, all 13 birds	62.26	146.23	143.82	24.2

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UNCONTROLLED DOGS A PUBLIC MENACE

ACCORDING to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, the Dog Law of the Commonwealth is enforced in every county of the State. At this season of the year, much damage results from the ravages of dogs in districts where sheep and other stock graze. Licensing of dogs is required by the Act of Assembly for the protection of such stock as well as to guard against the spread of Rabies and other diseases. Licenses for dogs must be secured from the County Treasurers on or before January 15 and it should be unnecessary for authorities to urge obedience to the law. Many dogs owners fail to meet the requirements of the law and for this purpose, the Dog Law Investigators are employed.

Every dog owner should be familiar with the Dog Law since it affects and benefits every person in the Commonwealth. The damage done by uncontrolled dogs is considerable. Dog owners will save themselves trouble and inconvenience if they obey the law by having their dogs licensed and wearing a tag at all times, keeping them under control and by making the dog an asset and not a liability.

Dog owners as well as the public, should call local police or constables and report dogs running at large which are a menace to public health and property. Every effort is made by the Department of Agriculture to enforce the law efficiently and reasonably. The uncontrolled dog is the real problem.

WILL ENFORCE BABY CHICK LAW

MORE than 200,000 baby chicks are sold weekly on 70 or more community sales located in various sections of the state, according to the Department of Agriculture. These chicks are shipped to the sales by hatcheries from within the state as well as from out-of-state hatcheries.

Investigation reveals that the sale of these chicks is frequently surrounded by conditions and accompanied by statements which come dangerously near, or actually are, deceptively fraudulent. To guard against this condition, agents from the Department of Agriculture are making a careful check at all Pennsylvania sales to determine that the information required by Act of Assembly appears on all containers and cartons holding chicks.

Field agents of the Department of Agriculture are now checking up the conditions surrounding these sales. Community sales owners, chick owners and all persons responsible for the enforcement of the Act are urged to cooperate.

Persons who may not carry out the provisions of the Act and the regulations, are subject to a fine upon conviction for violation.

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STATION WHP HARRISBURG

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Inaugurated and Conducted By the Department of Agriculture Harrisburg

PREVENT DAMAGE BY TERMITES

NUMEROUS requests for information indicate that the damage caused by termites attract considerable attention according to the Department of Agriculture.

The Department is prepared to advise persons who have had trouble with these "house-eating" pests and who can no longer feed them. Termite damage is always hidden inside wood since the wingless workers dislike light and remain under cover. They always have a contact between the building and the soil. Infestations by termites are usually discovered after much damage has been done.

The following suggestions are made:

For Prevention

(1) Keep all woodwork away from contact with the ground; (2) Support untreated wood above ground on a barrier of concrete, masonry laid in cement mortar, or wood that has been impregnated with chemical wood preservatives toxic to termites, such as creosote or some of the coal tar products; (3) Fill cracks in concrete, masonry walls, floors and foundations with cement mortar; (4) Maintain a metal shield as a barrier below wood to be insulated from ground when necessary; (5) Provide adequate drainage of soil beneath and around any structures susceptible to termite attack.

For Repair and Control

(1) Close all avenues between ground and the material to be protected by imposing barriers of metal, concrete or chemically treated wood; (2) Remove all structural unsound materials and destroy all material which contains termites (replacement); (3) Poison the ground at point where termite runways leave it. For this purpose any of the following chemicals are suggested: Saturated aqueous solution of copper sulphate or of sodium fluosilicate, a saturated aqueous solution of borax, full strength crude liquid orthodichlorobenzene, or chrystalline paradichlorobenzene; (4) Introduce these materials into termite galleries in materials which must be left in contact with the ground; (5) Inspect frequently after repairs or treatment for new runways built over the barrier.

CERTIFIED SEED REQUESTS DUE

APPLICATIONS for State inspection of potato, wheat, oats and barley plantings for certified seed purposes are due June 15, the Bureau of Plant Industry, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, at Harrisburg announced today.

Last year 92 potato growers applied for inspection and certification of 1,208 acres of potatoes for seed purposes. More than 183,166 bushels of certified seed were produced in the State in 1939. Because of the heavy demand for certified seed, many seed potato growers reported that they could have sold twice as much seed as they produced. Many orders were received after the certified crop was exhausted.

Certified seed potatoes are primarily inspected for those diseases that can only be identified while the plants are growing in the field. These diseases are known as the virus diseases and cause heavy losses to our potato growers each year. Unless a potato grower has personal information in regard to the freedom from these diseases of the seed potatoes he is buying, he should buy only certified stock.

Fields to be certified must meet certain requirements in regard to freedom from these virus diseases. In fact, most fields entered for certification are "rogued," which consists of pulling out and removing all diseased plants.

In addition to the potato acreage certified, 3,415 acres of grain were inspected for certification. That only 2,008 acres qualified for certification indicates that large quantities of grains sown with non-certified seed each year are not giving the grain grower the maximum production possible with certified seed. In 1939 the State rejected 41 percent of the total acreage entered, due primarily to disease, varietal mixture and noxious weeds.

Each year, during the grain seeding season, the Department receives numerous requests for information relative to available sources of seed. Only those growers who ordered their seed supply early were able to secure certified stock in past years.

Seed certification, whether it covers potatoes or grain, is not a cure-all, but is good insurance against the reduction of yields through those diseases that can be eliminated by certification, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture.

Applications for grain certification should be sent in immediately, especially where winter barley is to be placed under inspection. Winter barley has already headed and in some cases is beginning to change color. Grain inspections are made within two weeks prior to the time the crop is harvested.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS 10 HIGH PENS TO MAY 25, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	2607.05	2527
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	2480.70	2432
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	3	2380.50	2264
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	4	2374.65	2311
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	5	2364.85	2268
Burr's Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	2344.25	2234
Foreman Poultry Farm	Michigan	SCWL	7	2326.05	2247
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	8	2304.85	2295
Creighton Brothers	Indiana	SCWL	9	2275.70	2212
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	10	2268.45	2186

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO MAY 25, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds	51.16	121.77	121.77	24.0
1939, all 13 birds	58.44	143.36	139.08	24.6
1940, all 13 birds	62.05	150.33	147.69	24.2

NATIONAL DAIRY SHOW HARRISBURG, PA. OCT. 12-19, 1940

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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TREES BY THOUSANDS SAVED BY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE MEN

WORK to exterminate the Gypsy Moth, hence stop its defoliation ravages and the life of trees principally affecting apple, cherry and all shade trees, is being waged by the Department of Agriculture in five different counties. According to a report for the month of May just issued by the Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department, there are 26 crews comprising a total of 513 men now fighting to exterminate the Gypsy Moth in Carbon, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe and Wayne Counties.

This work of exterminating the Gypsy Moth by the department already has saved thousands of trees in the state.

The Gypsy Moth pests, which feeds on the leaves of trees, is a foreigner. It does not take long for a number of them to entirely denude a tree of its leaves. Representatives of the Bureau point out that the future welfare of our great state forests and farm orchards are being safe guarded. It came to Pennsylvania from the New England states. In 1869 a number of egg clusters were brought from France to Medford, Massachusetts by a Frenchman who had the idea he could cross the Gypsy Moth with the Silk Worm Moth and thus produce a hardy and active race of silk producing insects. In the course of his experiments, the story goes, some of the Gypsy Moth Caterpillars escaped. Within twenty years records show that the Gypsy Moth has extended its ravishes in all of the New England states. And at that time the fight to control it was begun in Massachusetts. That fight was taken up by the Department of Agriculture of this state in 1932.

Lures to Kill Moths

Records show the Department in the past eight years has cut down the number of Gypsy Moth clusters in this state to a vanishing point in many townships where it had flourished. The fact that the female Gypsy Moth cannot fly on account of the heaviness of its creative system has helped to eradicate them in this state. Representatives of the Bureau of Plant Industry after capturing the female moths place their bodies in benzene where they soak for a year. The benzene is then placed in small perforated tin cans which are placed in the orchards and forests, where the larvae of the moth has never been found. Around the cans are strewed large areas of sticky material. The scent emanating from the boxes attracts the male Gypsy Moth and thus the presence of a slight infestation in that particular area is discovered and destroyed.

Work Done In May

There are other ways of stopping this pest. One is to scout the area for egg masses; the female deposits about 500 eggs at a time. These eggs are found in the bark and on fence rails, underside of stones that are lying on the ground. When found in a mass they are killed by spraying them with creosote. Another method is the spraying with a composition of arsenate of lead and fish oil; third method, not so frequently used is placing burlap around the tree trunks which catch the larvae when they attempt to leave the trees.

For some reason known only to themselves the larvae on hot days always leave the trees in the morning and return in the evening. The Monthly Report of the Bureau of Plant Industry in regard to the Gypsy Moth control reads as follows:

"The program of spraying, the most important feature of the eradication work, got underway the week of May 20 and will continue through June. Approximately 120 tons of arsenate of lead and about 7,500 gallons of fish oil will be used in spraying numerous town properties or large woodland areas. Twenty-six high power spray machines using more than 100,000 feet of heavy duty hose necessary to reach available water supplies, will be employed in this work. In some cases over 1½ miles of hose will be required to reach outlying infestations. Territory to be treated is located chiefly in Luzerne and Lackawanna with small areas in adjoining counties."

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STATION WHP
HARRISBURG

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Inaugurated and Conducted
By the
Department of Agriculture
Harrisburg

STOP FLEA BEETLES SAVE GARDEN TRUCK

WARNING is given by the State Department of Agriculture that control measures should be enforced without delay to stop the flea beetles who are now in numbers attacking certain truck and garden crops, particularly including tomatoes, potatoes and radishes.

The beetles are small, black, and get their common name from the fact that they jump much like a flea when they are disturbed. There are several different species and all do considerable damage by small holes which they eat through the leaves.

Sprays with Bordeaux mixtures serve as repellents to these insects. Thorough dusting with dust mixtures containing 1% of rotenone are effective. This material, the department points out, is found on the market under various trade names and in purchasing it, the buyer should be guided by the percentage of rotenone present. Rotenone has the advantage of being highly toxic to certain insects and not toxic to warm-blooded animals, when used according to direction. Many of these rotenone mixtures are registered with the department as are all other insecticides which are sold in the state.

FACTS AND HINTS

DATE of holding Mifflin County Fair has been changed. The fair will be held under the auspices of the Mifflin Agricultural Association and A. E. Miller Secretary of the Association, announces that the fair will be held August 27-31 both dates inclusive instead of August 20-24 as originally intended.

AGRICULTURAL salt placed around the crown of the barberry plant in quantities varying with size of the plant has proven a most effective means of eradicating barberry bushes. When bushes are dug out, root parts left in the soil sprout and develop new bushes.

THE late cool, wet spring has retarded pasture grasses but many pasture weeds keep right on growing Bluegrass will start heading soon and unless grazing is heavy during the next two weeks, clipping will be necessary to keep weeds and bluegrass under control.

The mower may be set to clip closely. This will encourage the white clover, help scatter droppings and promote more uniform grazing. The best way to control weeds in pastures is to crowd them out by good treatments which encourage the bluegrass and white clover. Bluegrass does not need to go to seed to perpetuate itself, but most weeds do. Therefore, clip the pastures early in June and plan to do it again in August.

FARMERS who are just getting high-line electric service will play safe by not rating the force of the new source of power too lightly. Frequent reports are heard of livestock being killed by a homemade electric fence device or unapproved controller. The most recent item was about a pig a farmer's son was trying to train. It was pure luck that the boy was not killed as was the pig.

Wisconsin has established safety standards for all electric fences that may be legally used in that State. One of the requirements is a ground at the controller and prevents a breakdown from charging the wire too highly. Shocks that men could barely feel knocked over a child. What may be amply safe on a dry day may kill on a wet one. It does not pay to take chances to save a few dollars.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS 10 HIGH PENS TO JUNE 1, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	2667.40	2584
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	2547.10	2494
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	3	2450.65	2381
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	4	2449.50	2328
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	5	2411.45	2312
Burr's Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	2393.20	2279
Foreman Poultry Farm	Michigan	SCWL	7	2367.05	2285
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	8	2359.80	2347
Creighton Brothers	Indiana	SCWL	9	2337.25	2269
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	10	2331.20	2244

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO JUNE 1, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds	51.06	125.30	125.10	24.0
1939, all 13 birds	58.51	147.84	143.35	24.7
1940, all 13 birds	61.78	154.24	151.37	24.2

NATIONAL DAIRY SHOW HARRISBURG, PA. OCT. 12-19, 1940

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PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

Vol. 25 | Harrisburg, June 20, 1940 | No. 24

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PENNSYLVANIA RANKS HIGH IN CATTLE DISEASE CONTROL

THE United States Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Industry, in the report submitted to April 30, 1940, in connection with Federal-State cooperative Bang's disease control work, shows the following ranking of Pennsylvania.

6th in the number of herds tested during past 70 months.

4th in the number of cattle tested during the past 70 months.

10th in the number of cattle in infected herds during the past 70 months.

7th in the number of herds containing infection.

6th in the number of negative tested herds during the past 70 months.

3rd in the number of cattle in negative tested herds during the past 70 months.

11th in the number of herds under Federal-State supervision during the last 70 months.

8th in the number of cattle under Federal-State supervision during the last 70 months.

1st in the number of herds on list awaiting test.

1st in the number of cattle tested during the month of April.

May 31, 1940, there were 56,093 herds consisting of 482,158 cattle tested for Bang's disease under Federal-State supervision.

54,728 CATTLE TESTED IN MAY FOR BANGS

DURING the month of May, 1940 there were tested for Bangs Disease in this state under the individual and area plans, a total of 54,728 cattle and 2,051 reactors were disclosed. Of this number 28,261 were tested under the area plan and 1,275 reactors were found. To date 5,122 herds containing 72,085 cattle have qualified as Bang's Disease Free according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture.

The initial testing of all dairy cattle was completed in Lawrence County and in five townships in Erie County while similar work was started in twenty-two townships of Mercer County. The retesting of previously infected herds was finished in Venango, Indiana, Jefferson, Clarion, Forest, Elk, Cameron, Butler, Clearfield and Wyoming Counties.

420 townships have now been completely tested one or more times and 4 townships are signed up awaiting the test.

KEEP LIVESTOCK FEED FREE FROM POISON

THE Department of Agriculture aims constantly to keep agriculture in Pennsylvania at a high standard and emphasizes that one matter of great interest is the problem of successful feeding of livestock. In this connection the department offers following suggestions:

"When trouble with your stock and poultry arises immediately consult a veterinarian especially if you suspect diseases.

"Purchase only a feed which you know is intended for the animal to be fed, and if trouble is encountered do not pass hasty judgment. See to it that all feeds are properly stored at distances from materials which you known to be harmful.

"Label all poisonous substances so that no mistake can be made in handling.

"Keep your premises clean by the prompt removal of all manure or droppings. Do not fail to spray periodically with a disinfectant of known merit, which has been sold under a reliable guarantee. Guard against the thoughtless throwing away of empty paint cans or other containers, for cattle and poultry, have habits which evidence curiosity to a high degree.

"Your field where cattle graze should not be made a dumping ground for all manner of materials, which while not necessarily poisonous, may produce an evil effect in the event that cattle have taken something internally which does not rightfully belong in a stomach.

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FULTON VOTES DOWN SOIL CONSERVATION

JOHN H. LIGHT, Chairman of State Soil Conservation Board in announcing today that a referendum vote on the creation of a soil conservation district held in Fulton County recently is of State wide interest, said:

"There are now four so-called soil conservation districts in Pennsylvania and several applications are pending for the creation of such districts as provided for in the Act of Assembly of 1937. A month ago an election was held by farmers in Jefferson County who did not approve the creation of such district and the result in Fulton County yesterday was no better. In Fulton County there are approximately 1,350 farmers and only 519 of these farmers voted; 477 voting against the proposition and 42 voting in favor of it. Those voting for the proposition represented 7,125 acres of land and those voting against it, 72,025 acres."

W. S. Hagar, Executive Secretary of the State Soil Conservation Board conducted the election which was held under the supervision of the board according to law.

FACTS AND HINTS

WATCH for the Japanese beetle. It will make its 1940 appearance in a few days. This is the 20th year since the Japanese beetle was discovered in Pennsylvania.

HARVEST time is here for the honey bee. The busy bee now is in the midst of its main gathering honey season in the majority of counties in Pennsylvania. Bees begin rearing broods early in March using pollen and nectar gathered last season. In April, May and the early part of the month these stores were supplemented by pollen and nectar from willow, maple, dandelion and forest blows.

THE Department of Agriculture is advised that a grower in Columbia County has recently constructed a green house 100 x 13 feet in which he used only glass taken from windshields and doors of junked automobiles. The house is used mostly for propagation and all glass was procured from one junk yard. Strong glass was desired to withstand hail and various other hazards, including wild animals. But this grower had the unique experience recently of having a deer plunge through the glass and after running through the house, up and down flower beds, dashed through the glass wall on the opposite side. Much of his greenhouse stock, including sweet peas and potted plants, were damaged.

IN some western states, the "English Starling," birds have caused cattle owners considerable trouble by alighting on the backs of cattle and feeding on the larvae of the grub fly that are imbedded in the skin, along the top of the backs of cattle.

The attacking of cattle in this manner causes the cattle to start milling and running and frequently results in considerable damage to the cattle in wounds and broken legs; in addition, the breaking down of fences, feed racks and sheds. These attacks by the birds are due to the inability of the birds in securing feed from the fields, caused by heavy snowfalls.

Poisoning grains to exterminate the Starlings has not proven satisfactory for the reason that many desirable birds are poisoned instead of the Starlings. Painting the backs of the cattle or the wounds with pine tar liquid has been a help as a repellent for the Starlings and also helps in the healing of the wounds.

Keeping the barn entrance screened to prevent the Starlings from roosting in the barn is a practical method of control. The Starlings have propagated so rapidly in certain parts of the states that they have driven out many of our useful and beautiful birds and are becoming a menace and nuisance to many farmers.

The Starlings were imported from England to destroy certain worms and insects affecting plant life along the Atlantic seaboard and today, they have spread to all parts of the country until it has become a national problem of controlling and eradication.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS 10 HIGH PENS TO JUNE 8, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	2730.15	2643
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	2610.85	2554
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	3	2519.15	2444
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	4	2517.35	2391
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	5	2467.20	2364
Burr's Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	2436.50	2319
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	7	2420.00	2404
Foreman Poultry Farm	Michigan	SCWL	8	2403.45	2319
Creighton Brothers	Indiana	SCWL	9	2403.35	2331
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	10	2392.85	2301

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO JUNE 8, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds	50.97	128.84	128.44	24.1
1939, all 13 birds	58.50	152.10	147.48	24.6
1940, all 13 birds	61.52	158.10	155.02	24.3

NATIONAL DAIRY SHOW HARRISBURG, PA. OCT. 12-19, 1940

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PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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POISONOUS PLANTS LIVESTOCK MENACE

EVERY year thousands of dollars are lost by farmers of the State of Pennsylvania because poisonous plants take their toll on livestock. Often the loss is not reported to a veterinarian or some one who will make the information public.

Recently there has been one case reported to the Division of Botany, of the Department of Agriculture, of the loss of livestock by poisonous plants. The veterinarian from Somerset, Pa., stated that three heifers had been killed by some poisonous plant. Several plants were sent in to the Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Plant Industry for identification. The plant responsible for the killing, undoubtedly was Water Hemlock (Cicuta maculata).

The other common names are poison parsnip, wild parsnip, cowbane, and beaver poison, spotted parsley, muskrash root and snakeweed.

The water hemlock is a tall, erect marsh plant from two to six feet high. The stems are fairly stout, streaked with purple, bearing a few pale green, doubly compound leaves, and many quite flat clusters of very small, greenish white flowers. These flowers are similar in appearance to the wild carrot or Queen Anne's lace. The root consists of a bunch of fleshy, tapering projections attached to the root stock.

The water hemlock is found in local patches in low, wet marshy land. It is always more plentiful after a series of wet years.

The best method of eradication is to learn to recognize the plant and grubb out the roots, which should be done in early summer before the seeds are matured. The roots should then be placed beyond the reach of stock and, when dry, should be burned.

Farmers in general do not know the poisonous plants. Therefore the Botany Division has been called on during the summer months to search pastures for these poisonous plants. Plants are sent to the Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Plant Industry for identification and information is sent out on inquiry.

Those interested in poisonous plants should write the Department of Agriculture for General Bulletin, No. 531 entitled "Poisonous Plants of Pennsylvania."

1940 HUCKLEBERRY SEASON TO BE GOOD

NUMEROUS forest fires, according to the State Department of Agriculture, have been reported from various huckleberry districts this spring. Some claim that these fires are detrimental and from others that they are beneficial to the huckleberry crop. An abundance of soil moisture this spring has encouraged the development of strong plants which indicates a good huckleberry crop for 1940.

Throughout the Pocono Mountains and various other regions in the northeastern part of the state, a good huckleberry crop is a wind fall to numbers. Many long idle men and their families will go into the woods to gather the berry which finds a ready market. The huckleberry crop is a source of considerable income to these local people when the crop is good.

Years ago it was necessary, it was noted at the department, in many cases for the pickers to carry their berries for many miles, but agents of commission houses purchase the berries on the ground and load them into trucks for delivery to markets many miles away.

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180 ACRES PLANTED POTATO WART TESTS

THE potato wart eradication program, through chemical treatment of infected areas, started in 1933 at Newtown, Centre County, has been extended each year and includes four infected gardens this year at Salisburg, Somerset County, and covers all known infected areas in twenty-four towns and villages of eleven counties. In eight of these areas, eradication has been completed and the areas released from quarantine.

Fifteen areas treated between 1934 and 1939, and still under quarantine, include 64 gardens which were check planted to susceptible Rural potatoes between May 6th and 20th of this year. A total of 102 bushels of potatoes were used to plant these tests.

Wart eradication by "spot treatment" has been undertaken in all known infected gardens or areas in Banks Township, Carbon County. This includes five towns or villages with sixteen infected gardens. These areas were check planted May 23rd to 28th with susceptible Rural potatoes, using a total of 25 bushels.

Field eradication experiments are in progress in three areas: Silver Brook, Schuylkill County; Bernice, Sullivan County; and Drifton, Luzerne County. These tests include a total of 44 plots, which were planted May 20th to 29th, requiring a total of 56 bushels of potatoes.

VIGILANCE KEY TO MASTITIS CONTROL

MASTITIS in cattle, strikes a vulnerable spot in the economic productivity of cattle, as well as impairment in the physical ability to produce and rear off-spring.

Herd owners who daily are in close contact with the members of the herd, are usually the best qualified to detect variations in the normal physical functions and natural behavior of the individual cows. This is particularly true in the milk production of each cow.

Early detection, isolation and treatment should be the precept of every herd owner in his continued vigilance against the warring forces of disease, especially in mastitis.

Mastitis makes its appearance under two roles, one a benign character in which the condition is restricted to perhaps only one individual of the herd, and is non-infectious in nature. In the other role, however, it appears in a much more sinister form: that of a virulent, infectious and highly transmissible disease, the organisms of which, being present in the udder secretions can be spread to such an extent that every cow in the herd would at some time be exposed to its irreparable damaging effects.

The herd owner's chief concern is to determine as early as possible whether or not he is dealing with infectious mastitis. Every case of mastitis should be treated as a possible source of infection to the remainder of the herd until proved otherwise.

Competent veterinary advice and treatment is the principal factor in the control and eradication of this debilitating malady.

MEATS PROVIDE ESSENTIAL FOOD ELEMENTS

THE human body, through the various metabolic processes, uses a very great amount of carbohydrates, proteins and fats, as well as other essential chemical elements to sustain life.

Fats furnish calories and energy, while proteins build muscles and control other body functions. Many foods contain protein but not all of them contain protein in a form adaptable to building body tissue.

Meat is an ideal source of this vital element because muscle tissue is being used to build muscle. Meat also is a very good source of phosphorus, iron, copper, as well as many valuable vitamins.

The vitamins usually found in quality meats are A, B, G, and small amounts of vitamins C and D. The vitamins, speaking collectively, prevent certain inflammations, nervous disorders, scurvy, rickets, pellagra-like symptoms and are greatly responsible for good body resistance.

The glandular meats such as the liver, heart, brain and kidney are especially rich in vitamins, iron, copper, phosphorus, protein and should be eaten more often by everyone.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS 10 HIGH PENS TO JUNE 15, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	2797.55	2706
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	2673.75	2613
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	3	2579.95	2449
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	4	2590.70	2510
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	5	2522.70	2416
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	2486.80	2467
Burr's Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	7	2485.95	2365
Creighton Brothers	Indiana	SCWL	8	2460.55	2384
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	9	2453.30	2357
Foreman Poultry Farm	Michigan	SCWL	10	2438.05	2351

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO JUNE 15, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds	50.87	132.36	131.75	24.1
1939, all 13 birds	58.50	156.39	151.53	24.6
1940, all 13 birds	61.26	161.95	158.66	24.4

HARRISBURG, PA. OCT. 12-19, 1940 NATIONAL DAIRY SHOW

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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PROTECT EVERGREENS FROM RED MITES

NURSERYMEN and home owners will do well to examine their evergreens carefully at frequent intervals during the months of July and August for the presence of red mites (red spider), advises the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. There are several species of this pest which attack practically all the evergreens. They are small creatures, and may easily escape notice, thus are able to build up to large numbers before their presence is made evident by the browning and drying up of the infested plant or tree.

Some species of red mites may be early detected by the presence of silken webs which resemble spider webs. The webs are seldom heavy and are only noticeable when one is looking for them.

To control these pests, spray the infested tree as soon as the pests are noticed with a solution made from any of the well-known summer spray oils. Use enough oil to make from 1½ to 3% of oil, and add one pint of nicotine sulphate containing 40% of nicotine to each 100 gallons of spray. In applying, make sure to cover all parts of the tree since only such mites as are hit will be killed. It is important that these pests be controlled to insure good vigorous trees, but growers should make certain that they are using a summer spray oil.

KEEP SWINE HEALTHY

THE Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Industry, Division of Miscellaneous Diseases, recommends that the following Common Sense Precautions be observed in order that hog cholera may be controlled and eradicated in Pennsylvania. If these few simple precautions are adhered to, it will result in the herd owner having a disease-free swine herd, which is the foundation and first prerequisite for the successful and economical production of pork.

DO NOT Buy sick hogs.

DO NOT Waste money and time on so-called cholera cures, but employ professional service.

DO NOT Buy exceedingly cheap hogs and pigs unless you know why the owner is sacrificing them.

DO NOT Buy hogs from several different people and put them all together, or with your own hogs, until you are sure no sickness exists.

DO NOT Go near a premise where there are sick hogs, or allow anyone handling sick hogs to visit your pens and lots.

DO NOT Purchase pigs from public sales or stock yards unless they are vaccinated or intended for immediate slaughter.

DO NOT Take chances with a sick hog, but isolate it, and consult your veterinarian.

DO NOT Transport any movable object from premises where infection has existed which may possibly carry infected material to your premises.

DO NOT Be careless about your premises and swine.

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BLACK STEM RUST CONTROL PROGRESSING

THE Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture reports that during the month of May, 56,448 common barberry bushes were destroyed on 156 properties in North Western and North Eastern Counties of Pennsylvania, requiring 33,403 pounds of salt for the treatment.

Common barberry serves as the alternate host plant for the spread of Black Stem Rust on oats, wheat and other cereals. By the removal of the barberry from the rural areas, farmers are able to reduce the loss in yield of cereal crops due to this disease.

CHERRY HARVEST STARTS

GROWERS in the principal fruit producing counties of the state, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture, are now harvesting their crops of sweet and sour cherries, the principal counties for this production being Adams, Franklin and Erie, where canners and cold-packers purchase the bulk of the fruit for canning or freezing, so that cherries are available the year around.

The State Department of Agriculture has inspectors grading the loads of cherries received by processors in the State. Through this inspection service it is possible for growers to receive full value for their crops, canners and packers to receive quality of a high standard, and the consumer will receive the best quality obtainable in the processed article.

DISEASED BEES SHOULD BE DESTROYED

FOURTEEN apiary inspectors are working in the Western counties of the State, making a careful inspection of conditions in the apiaries of that region, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. Where disease is found, a fourteen-day notice is given to treat or destroy colonies affected. It is usually best to destroy these colonies as soon as they are found, since if exposed during the active season for bees, disease is sure to spread to healthy colonies.

Burning colonies affected with American Foulbrood is the surest and most economical method of controlling this disease. The Inspector will assist as much as possible in such cases, but the bee-keeper is urged to act promptly in order to save the extra time and expense of making a second trip to check on the thoroughness of the job. In addition, there is always a chance of spreading disease from a colony which has been left in the bee yard to be treated or destroyed later.

ELEVEN HUNDRED NURSERIES INSPECTED

NURSERY inspectors from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture are now inspecting the growing stock in the various nurseries throughout the state, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. Disease and pest-free nurseries will be certified for the protection of the growers as well as the buyers of such nursery stock. This certification is for the coming year, beginning October 1, 1940, and ending September 30, 1941. During the current inspection year, there have been 1100 nurseries inspected and certified, a gain of 135 over the previous year. In addition to this, 500 dealers in nursery stock have been certified and 389 non-resident nurseries have applied for and received certification to sell stock in Pennsylvania.

CANNERY SEASON OPENS

THE middle of June, says John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture, saw the opening of the 1940 canning season in Pennsylvania, when the harvest of peas started in the south-central counties of Adams, York, Franklin and Lancaster. Other counties further north or of higher altitudes, such as Columbia and Somerset, started the canning of peas a week later. Weather throughout the growing season has been favorable for the growth of an excellent crop of peas as to quality, although only average in quantity because of excess of moisture in all but well-drained areas. Pennsylvania growers have tripled plantings of pea acreage in the past 10 years, so that the State is rapidly becoming one of the principal pea-canning states of the Union.

FARM FACTS

Even with late planting of corn this season, it is reported that stands are generally good, and that the crop is growing rapidly.

Potato growers are reporting ideal weather conditions for the growing crop.

Inspection for the certification of grain crops and seed potatoes, starting with barley, was begun by the Department of Agriculture on May 19. There is an increase in the acreage entered for inspection of potatoes, barley, oats and wheat over any previous year.

The crop of canning house tomatoes produced in Pennsylvania this year will approximate 20,000 acres. Much of this crop will be grown with plants produced in the South from certified tomato seed grown in Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania fruit growers of major fruit crops report prospects of good crops for the 1940 season.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS 10 HIGH PENS TO JUNE 22, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	2866.55	2771
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	2742.20	2677
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	3	2658.05	2572
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	4	2644.20	2509
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	5	2577.65	2467
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	2550.55	2528
Burr's Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	7	2533.70	2409
Creighton Brothers	Indiana	SCWL	8	2513.00	2433
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	9	2511.95	2411
J. A. Hanson	Oregon	SCWL	10	2494.25	2400

Production Summary To June 22, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds	50.76	135.84	135.02	24.1
1939, all 13 birds	58.44	160.50	155.46	24.6
1940, all 13 birds	60.95	165.62	162.13	24.4

NATIONAL DAIRY SHOW HARRISBURG, PA., OCT. 12-19, 1940

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PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

Entered as second-class Matter, June 23, 1909, at the Post Office at Harrisburg, Pa., under Act of Congress, June 6, 1900.

John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

Vol. 25 | Harrisburg, July 11, 1940 | No. 27

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY
JUL 16 1940
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

NON-POISONOUS INSECTICIDES

TWO garden insecticides, which when used according to directions are non-injurious to man and other warm blooded animals, have recently come into general use, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. These are mixtures containing rotenone, or pyrethrum.

Rotenone is one of the active ingredients of the roots of certain tropical plants belonging to the Leguminosae. (Our locust tree is also a member.) These roots come from Africa and Central and South America, and are generally known as derris from Africa, and cube (pronounced Ku-ba) from Central and South America. These roots after grinding are mixed with clay or talc and applied as a dust; or, a wetting agent may be added and the mixture applied as a spray.

Dust mixtures may contain from one-half to one percent of rotenone, and the wettable mixture from 4 to 5% rotenone. Both dust and spray mixtures are on the market under several trade names. In making your purchases, be certain that they contain a given percentage of the active ingredient. Dusts should contain about seventy-five hundredths of one percent of rotenone to be of general use about the garden.

Use spray mixtures according to the directions on the container in which they are purchased.

Usually the dust form is more convenient to use, though the spray applications are more effective in some instances, as is the case in Japanese beetle control. Rotenone is not effective on all insects. Several of our most troublesome garden pests are well controlled by a few applications. A little experience will soon show which are controlled and which are not.

Pyrethrum is made from the flower heads of a plant closely related to our oxeye daisy. Dalmatia for a long time was the country supplying this insecticide. Lately, Japan has been supplying large quantities. Some attempt has been made to cultivate the plant in this country, but up to now these attempts have not been very successful. Oil extracts of pyrethum are extensively used as household and livestock sprays. There are a few successful garden sprays with pyrethrum as their active principle.

These and all other insecticides sold or offered for sale in the State must be registered with the State Department of Agriculture.

BARLEY GOOD NURSE CROP

AS we drive through the country, we notice yellow fields indicating that the harvest season is here. Because of its short growing season, Barley is the first of our cereals to take on the golden color which means that it has matured and ripened.

Barley is of great antiquity as a cultivated cereal, and was used for bread even before wheat—in fact, until the 19th century, this grain was the principal source of bread flour. There is archeological evidence that this grain was cultivated in prehistoric time. It probably originated in Southwestern Asia or Northern Africa.

On well drained soils, not too sandy in character, it probably produces more feed per acre than any of the small grains.

It is used in soups, breakfast foods—and because of its high nutritive value is used for food for both man and animals. It is also considered a good nurse crop for new seedings.

IMMUNIZE DOGS AGAINST DISTEMPER

ALL lovers of the dog, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture, are keenly interested in canine distemper because of the fact that it is a highly fatal disease. The disease is quite prevalent in many parts of the state at the present time.

Distemper of the dog is highly infectious and transmissible. The primary cause is of such a nature as to be invisible even with the most powerful microscope, i. e., it is an ultravirus, or the virus of Carre'. After dogs become infected with this virus, the usual symptoms and post-mortem changes are the result of secondary invaders. The disease most commonly occurs in young dogs, chiefly under two years of age, and occasionally may affect older animals, especially those which were not exposed while younger. Cases in older dogs, showing the typical appearance and manifesting the typical post-mortem lesions, have been demonstrated at the laboratory of The Pennsylvania Bureau of Animal Industry. Natural infection usually occurs by way of the digestive and respiratory systems.

The symptoms in the early stages are generally those of a septicemia where the primary causative agent is in the blood. The disease may terminate fatally in two or three days to a week or ten days after the onset. Some of the first symptoms usually are involvement of the respiratory tract, accompanied by reddening of the eyes, and usually a discharge of mucous or pus from the eyes as well as the nose. The digestive system may be involved, in which case there are loss of appetite, vomiting and diarrhea. Nervous symptoms commonly are seen, and in some cases may be the chief clinical picture, and in this form of the disease, chorea manifested by muscular twitchings frequently develops.

Recovery may be rapid or slow, and may not be complete especially in cases involving the nervous system with manifestations of chorea. Chronic slow developing cases may last several months, and then terminate in complete recovery or in death.

Since dog distempter is widespread and is among the most serious diseases of dogs, efforts should be made to establish either temporary or permanent immunity by suitable inoculations. The Laidlaw-Dunkan method of immunizing puppies is fairly successful and can be properly applied by most practicing veterinarians who should be consulted by interested dog owners.

The crop of canning house tomatoes produced in Pennsylvania this year will approximate 20,000 acres. Much of this crop will be grown with plants produced in the South from certified tomato seed grown in Pennsylvania.

CANNERY INSPECTION INCREASES

PENNSYLVANIA growers, processors, and canners of fruits and vegetables indicate they will request approximately one-fourth more State supervised inspection of Cannery products in 1940 than in 1939, according to a recent compilation made by John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. The principal increase, the Secretary notes, is in the demand for State licensed tomato graders, which may be increased from 30 to 42 men. The demand has also increased for inspectors of apples, beans and other vegetable crops.

The demand for greater use of State supervised purchasing of canning crops on the basis of definite grade standards is due to a number of factors, Secretary Light states. First, greater emphasis on high quality Pennsylvania canned goods makes it necessary to produce and deliver to processors high quality raw products to secure high quality in the can. Second, producers of higher quality raw stock are entitled to premium payments from the canners, which they are only able to secure through using grades and inspection. The third cause for increased demand for State Inspection of canning products is a rapidly expanding canning industry in Pennsylvania.

FEED PRICES GOVERN EGG PROFITS

A STUDY of egg prices from 1933 to 1940, at one of the cooperative egg organizations selling eggs according to the standards of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, reveals that an average of nearly thirty-two cents per dozen was received by the producer group. The lowest price for the seven year period occurred in 1933 when the average return for Fancy eggs was 27.63 cents per dozen. The highest return of 35.41 cents per dozen was received in 1935, with 1936 a close second with 34.43 cents per dozen. The 1939 return was 29.05 cents per dozen.

During this period, there have been many economic changes, and the average return for any one year, or for the period, is not a definite indication that more or less profits occurred as prices climbed upward or retarded. The costs of supplies, especially feed, has varied to the degree that during seemingly favorable years, the net returns to poultrymen have been undesirable. In 1939, it required more than 9 dozen eggs to buy a bag of feed, and thus far in 1940 it has required more than 10 dozen eggs to purchase the same amount. The reduction in return per bird due to feed costs has necessitated strict economy and the development of an efficient management program.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS 10 HIGH PENS TO JUNE 29, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	2934.65	2836
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	2813.10	2744
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	3	2719.90	2629
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	4	2703.75	2564
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	5	2632.10	2518
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	2611.90	2586
Burr's Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	7	2579.40	2451
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	8	2578.75	2468
Creighton Brothers	Indiana	SCWL	9	2566.55	2483
J. A. Hanson	Oregon	SCWL	10	2565.60	2466

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO JUNE 29, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds	50.63	139.20	138.23	24.1
1939, all 13 birds	58.36	164.54	159.31	24.7
1940, all 13 birds	60.68	169.22	165.52	24.4

HARRISBURG, PA. OCT. 12-19, 1940 NATIONAL DAIRY SHOW

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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CHICORY DESIGNATED A NOXIOUS WEED

CHICORY (Cichorium intybus) commonly known as succory, blue saylor, blue daisy, or wild endive, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture is a native of Europe, and is used there as a salad and as an adulterant for coffee. Chicory has become naturalized in this Country, and according to Act No. 58 of April 23, 1923, is considered a noxious weed.

The stem is stiff, tough, and angular in cross section. It attains heights of from one to three feet. The leaves are long-lanceolate, dark grey green and coarsely toothed. The flowers are a violet-blue and rather attractive. Chicory blooms in dry situations, conspicuous in waste places, uncultivated fields, etc. from July until October.

In controlling this plant, it is well to remember that the chief method of dispersal is by means of its seeds, therefore, deep cutting below the soil with spade or hoe, or pulling when the ground is wet and soft before blossoming time will be an efficient method of eradication. When too abundant for either of the above methods, "rotation of crops" will be proper procedure. When persons holding lands on which Chicory or Canada Thistle are growing, and they neglect or refuse to cut and destroy them and allow weeds to go to seed, it shall and may be lawful for any person to instruct a constable or supervisor of the township or district to notify the person or persons owning the neglected land to cut and destroy such weeds.

POULTRY SELECTION ALWAYS PROFITABLE

PENNSYLVANIA Poultrymen have to date registered more than 150,000 birds in the Department's Poultry Standardization Program, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. The early receipt of so large a number is an indication that the 1940 season of poultry selection work will exceed the 358,000 birds handled last year.

The applications include breeding flocks, individual flocks, and hatcheries who are making preparations to have each individual breeding bird selected by an official representative of the Department. When the selection is completed, along with the official test for pullorum disease, each group will be placed in a breed improvement as well as a disease eradication classification. Supervised, Certified, or R. O. P. are the gradings for qualifications in breed selection, and clean or accredited for the pullorum disease eradication program.

Although selection work is done in practically every month of the year, the heaviest scheduled portion comes during the period of July to December. At the present time, most of the work is done on the hen flocks because of the desire to eliminate undesirable individuals at the conclusion of the hatching season. The more concentrated period is devoted to the new crop of Pullets and special breeders that serve as foundation stock.

FINAL NOTICE

THE Mailing List of the Weekly News Bulletin is under revision. If you desire that we continue your name on our list to receive this publication, kindly fill in the blank below and mail to:

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

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Harrisburg

SYCAMORE BLIGHT

NUMEROUS inquiries have recently come to the Bureau of Plant Industry relative to a disease of the Sycamore or Plane tree. Certain species of oak are also known to be attacked. The general effect on the Sycamore is the blighting and browning on the first growth of leaves, noticeable in many parts of the State at the present time. Close examination will also reveal the presence of small cankerous areas on the smaller twigs. This disease is known as Sycamore Blight, or Anthracnose, and is caused by a fungus which is usually destructive during periods of prolonged cool moist weather, such as we have had this spring.

In severe cases, trees may be completely defoliated, but the Sycamore at least may produce a second crop of leaves and thereby complete the season's growth process without serious injury. However, complete defoliation during several successive seasons may cause the death of the tree.

Pruning out of diseased wood, at least in the case of young trees, and the cleaning up and burning of all fallen leaves, will help to keep the disease under control. In addition to the above, where valuable shade trees are involved, spraying with Bordeaux Mixture just as the first leaves are appearing in the spring will furnish additional protection.

For best results, particularly if the weather is favorable for the development of the blight, four applications should be made at intervals of ten days or two weeks.

The present economic conditions warrant exceptionally good culling because very few flock owners can afford to keep boarders in their poultry houses. The removal of hens makes it possible to readjust the housing schedule, and permits early preparations for housing the new crop of birds.

NECROTIC ENTERITIS IN SWINE

NECROTIC enteritis is second only to Hog Cholera in recent autopsy records of Transmissible Diseases in swine at the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Industry Laboratory.

Typically a filth born disease, necrotic enteritis, as an independent condition, is found chiefly in young pigs up to four or five months of age. Symptoms may appear soon after weaning in the form of persistent diarrhea with yellowish fetid discharge accompanied by steady loss of condition. Mortality is usually high, and of those that do recover, many may be permanently stunted in growth and return little or no profit for care and feed.

Good sanitation is the best defense. Young pigs should never be turned out to the common hog lot. Clean ground should be provided with adequate shelter against inclement weather. Shelters must be kept clean and dry. Food and water supply should be protected against contamination.

EGG GRADING PAYS

THE Department of Agriculture is often confronted with the question "Does it pay to produce top grade eggs?" This can be answered most effectively by comparing average returns from officially graded eggs.

During 1933, the average return for Fancy (Large Size) eggs exceeded the return for Extra (Large Size) eggs by 1.41 cents per dozen. In 1934 the spread was 1.33 cents per dozen with a slight decrease to 1.23 cents occurring in 1935. A further reduction to 1.08 cents in 1936 was overcome in 1937 when the increase jumped to 1.29 cents. The 1938 figures indicated a spread of only .98 cents which was the only time during the seven year period when price differences fell below one cent per dozen gain of top grade eggs over the next lower grade. A sixteen-hundredth of a cent advance in 1939 brought the total gain to 1.14 cents per dozen. Over the entire period the careful producer received an average of 1.20 cents per dozen more because of his care in maintaining good quality in his marketing program.

Interpreted in terms of a case of eggs, the careful producer received 36 cents more for each 30 dozen unit when marketing Fancy eggs. This premium multiplied by the number of cases marketed would soon assist in determining the reason for a favorable or unfavorable condition of the poultryman's bank account.

It may be ventured that the amount of time or the facilities required to maintain top quality would not equal the additional returns. As a rule, the same motions are required for both qualities. In the case of top quality, it is primarily a matter of efficient operation and the proper use of available facilities. In the case of second quality, it is more a matter of lost motion and carelessness in the using of equipment to the best advantage.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS 10 HIGH PENS TO JULY 6, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	3001.85	2900
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	2882.50	2809
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	3	2783.70	2688
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	4	2767.40	2623
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	5	2694.65	2576
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	2676.55	2647
J. A. Hanson	Oregon	SCWL	7	2635.00	2531
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	8	2633.50	2523
Burr's Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	9	2631.50	2499
Creighton Brothers	Indiana	SCWL	10	2630.90	2543

Production Summary to July 6, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds	50.45	142.46	141.25	24.2
1939, all 13 birds	58.23	168.45	163.05	24.7
1940, all 13 birds	60.33	172.80	168.91	24.4

HARRISBURG, PA., OCT. 12-19, 1940
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BARLEY INSPECTIONS NOW COMPLETED

FIELD inspection for seed certification of Winter Barley has been completed, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. There were 53 acres certified out of a total of 46 entered for inspection. Varieties certified in order of importance are Tennessee Winter, Beardless, Marbarbless and Kentucky No. 1.

The certified winter barley crop is considerably below average this year. Many heads were not filled well, and prospects indicate a lower average yield per acre will be harvested. Barley fields also showed considerably more weeds of all kinds this year than in previous years. Fields were rejected because of smut and garlic which were more common than in 1939. The presence of other grains such as wheat and rye was responsible for numerous rejections.

The crops harvested from the fields that were certified are also subject to germination test and analysis for purity by the Seed Laboratory of the Department. Crops that do not show an analysis of 99.0% purity, or a germination of 90.0% or more, will be rejected. Secretary Light states that there are too many other hazards that confront a farmer in the production of a crop of grain without taking the additional chance on planting poor seed.

As soon as the crop is thrashed and samples analyzed and germinated, a list of growers will be issued by the Bureau of Plant Industry. Farmers wishing to receive a list of these growers may secure one by writing to the Department.

LARGER SUPPLY SEED WHEAT AVAILABLE

THE Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has received applications for the inspection and certification of approximately 2700 acres of winter wheat for seed purposes. This acreage no doubt will make available a larger supply of seed wheat for Pennsylvania farmers than in previous years. With the grain harvest season from a week to ten days later this year than in 1939, many fields entered for inspection will not be ready for inspection and harvest until the latter part of July. However, the Department reports that the bulk of the field inspection work has been completed.

Wheat fields in the southeastern part of the state looked very good, but, upon close examination, revealed many heads that were very poorly filled. Most of the fields are heavy in the straw, but the grains appear to be small and the heads generally rather light. There are probably several reasons for this condition. Weather conditions this spring were cool and moist, which was favorable to certain diseases that are causing some of the losses. A close examination of most of these fields will reveal a number of dead heads. Most of these heads are infected with the scab. However, smut is also taking a fairly heavy toll of the crop this year. It is also generally thought that heavy rains during the blossoming period interfered somewhat with pollination, and resulted in many poorly filled heads.

The Department's inspectors are finding it necessary to reject some fields on account of disease, noxious weeds such as garlic, thistle, etc., and varietal mixtures. A list of growers of certified wheat and winter barley will be available as soon as samples are given a laboratory test, which will be completed soon after the first of August.

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STATION WHP HARRISBURG

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Inaugurated and Conducted by the

Department of Agriculture Harrisburg

RABIES CASES REPORTED IN SIXTEEN COUNTIES

THE Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture reports that during May and June, their laboratory examined for Rabies the brains of 113 animals, with 50 positive cases. Twenty clinical cases were also reported. 153 persons and 280 animals were either bitten by or exposed to rabid dogs.

The 16 counties in which rabies were diagnosed are: Adams, Beaver, Butler, Chester, Dauphin, Delaware, Fayette, Greene, Lancaster, Lawrence, Philadelphia, Schuylkill, Washington, and Westmoreland.

WEED LAW ENFORCED BY LOCAL OFFICIALS

EACH summer, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture receives hundreds of complaints involving careless property owners who allow noxious weeds to seed and spread onto adjoining land, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture.

The impression prevails that the Department is charged with the enforcement of the Pennsylvania Weed Law. This, the officials explain, is not the case, for the law specifically provides that anyone who desires protection and who is "aggrieved or about to be injured" by the growth of Canada Thistle or Chicory, must inform by written notice any constable or supervisor of the township or district in which the weeds may be growing. It is the duty of the local officer thus notified to give five days' notice in writing to the owner of the land involved. If the owner refuses to cut the Canada Thistle or Chicory, the official may hire some one to do the work and charge the costs to the owner. If the constable or supervisor neglects to perform his duties as prescribed by the law, he is liable to a fine of ten dollars.

In addition to the protection given by the State Weed Law, incorporated boroughs, towns and cities may pass, and frequently do pass and enforce, ordinances regulating the cutting of all weeds.

All complainants who write to the Department are, therefore, referred to the local authorities.

COOK PORK THOROUGHLY

THE occurrence of Trichinosis in swine and the possibility of its transmission to man has been known for many years, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. The disease is known to be widely distributed amongst hogs in the United States. The publication of recent investigations conducted by the United States Bureau of Animal Industry has shown an important variation in this distribution.

It is shown that in areas where grain feeding of hogs prevails, the incidence of Trichinosis is relatively low, (about 1%), whereas in those sections where garbage feeding is prevalent, the incidence is relatively high, (4% to 5%).

The conclusion is made by this authority that the principal source of human Trichinosis lies therefore in the consumption of raw, improperly cooked or inadequately cured pork from garbage-fed hogs.

CATTLE TUBERCULOSIS REDUCED TO MINIMUM

THE Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Industry, reports that during the month of June, 41,707 cattle and 51 goats were tested for Tuberculosis, with only 279 cattle, but no goats, reacting to the test. During this same period, herd owners, on account of previous tuberculin tests, were paid $7,223.81 from State Indemnities, and $5,243.32 from Federal Indemnities.

Their May reports show tuberculin tests of 100,710 cattle and 96 goats, with only 292 cattle reactors, and no goat reactors. Herd Owners' claims paid during the month amounted to $11,896.20 State Indemnities, and $9,499.62 Federal Indemnities.

WAR INTERFERES WITH SHIPMENTS

WAR conditions in the Low Countries have seriously interfered with shipments of bulbs to this country, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. Normally, there are large shipments at this time of the year, but during the past several weeks, wholesale seed houses have received practically no bulbs from Holland and other low countries. Last year there were imported approximately 112,000,000 bulbs, at least 95 per cent of which came from Holland. Usually from ninety-five to ninety-nine per cent of all tulip bulbs sold in this country are imported. With the small supply of American-grown bulbs, prices are likely to be high this coming season, which lasts from September to Thanksgiving.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS 10 HIGH PENS TO JULY 13, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	3069.85	2965
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	2946.40	2869
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	3	2849.85	2749
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	4	2831.15	2682
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	5	2754.45	2632
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	2740.70	2708
J. A. Hanson	Oregon	SCWL	7	2703.65	2595
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	8	2693.10	2578
Creighton Brothers	Indiana	SCWL	9	2687.50	2596
Burr's Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	10	2681.55	2545

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO JULY 13, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds	50.26	145.62	144.24	24.2
1939, all 13 birds	58.09	172.26	166.73	24.7
1940, all 13 birds	60.13	176.33	172.24	24.4

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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DATES OF PENNSYLVANIA FAIRS ANNOUNCED BY SECRETARY LIGHT

Dates of eighty-one Pennsylvania Fairs are contained in a list issued by John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. The list contains the names of the Fairs and the location, dates, and Secretary of each, as of today.

Fair	*Location*	*Date*	*Secretary*
Waynesburg Fair	Waynesburg, Pa.	July 29-Aug. 3	Ambrose Bradley
New Castle Fair	New Castle, Pa.	Aug. 6-9	A. C. Shoaf
Cumb. Co. Dairy Cattle & Horse Show	Williams Grove, Pa.	Aug. 6-10	H. K. McCullough
Tioga Valley Fair	Lawrenceville, Pa.	Aug. 8-10	Carl H. Forrest
Mercer Central Fair	Mercer, Pa.	Aug. 13-15	J. P. Orr
Big Armstrong Fair	Ford City, Pa.	Aug. 14-17	Walter H. Bowser
Fawn Grove Fair	Fawn Grove, Pa.	Aug. 14-17	L. M. Brown
Bedford Co. Fair	Bedford, Pa.	Aug. 19-24	A. C. Brice
Kutztown Fair	Kutztown, Pa.	Aug. 19-24	C. L. Bordner
Butler Fair	Butler, Pa.	Aug. 21-23	C. M. Miller
Somerset Co. Fair	Meyersdale, Pa.	Aug. 20-23	Clarence Rowe
Troy Agri. Society	Troy, Pa.	Aug. 20-24	H. D. Holcombe
Dayton Fair	Dayton, Pa.	Aug. 20-24	J. R. Borland
United Farmers	Abbottstown, Pa.	Aug. 20-24	C. J. Meckley
Mifflin Fair	Newville, Pa.	Aug. 20-24	A. E. Miller
Susquehanna Fair	Montrose, Pa.	Aug. 21-23	V. B. Corle
Harold Fair	Greensburg, Pa.	Aug. 22-24	J. H. Silvis, Jr.
Grange-Centre Co.	Centre Hall, Pa.	Aug. 24-30	Mrs. Samuel Grove
Carbon Co. Fair	Lehighton, Pa.	Aug. 26-31	Frank R. Diehl
Huntingdon Fair	Huntingdon, Pa.	Aug. 26-31	S. E. McElwain
Indiana Co. Fair	Indiana, Pa.	Aug. 27-30	B. H. Lichteberger
Wattsburg Fair	Wattsburg, Pa.	Aug. 27-31	H. M. Burrows
West End Fair	Gilbert, Pa.	Aug. 28	James F. Shiffer
Harford Fair	Harford, Pa.	Aug. 28-30	J. A. Williams
Youngsville Fair	Youngsville, Pa.	Aug. 28-31	Aubrey R. Briggs
Stoneboro Fair	Stoneboro, Pa.	Aug. 29-Sept. 2	Walter B. Parker
Allegheny Co. Fair	South Park, Pa.	Aug. 29-Sept. 2	Geo. E. Kelly
McKean Co. Fair	Smethport, Pa.	Sept. 2-5	B. T. Garlick
Cambria Co. Fair	Ebensburg, Pa.	Sept. 2-7	R. G. Davis
Schuylkill Fair	Pottsville, Pa.	Sept. 2-7	F. W. Bausum
Montgomery Co. Fair	Hatfield, Pa.	Sept. 2-7	A. F. Kinsey
Juniata Co. Fair	Port Royal, Pa.	Sept. 3-7	J. H. Book
Linesville Fair	Linesville, Pa.	Sept. 4-6	O. C. Lance
Fulton Co. Fair	McConnellsburg, Pa.	Sept. 4-7	H. H. Peck
Sullivan Co. Fair	Forksville, Pa.	Sept. 4-7	J. R. Whitley
Union Co. Fair	Laurelton, Pa.	Sept. 4-7	N. B. Shaw
Cambridge Springs	Cambridge Springs,	Sept. 5-7	R. F. Whipple
Greene-Dreher Fair	Newfoundland, Pa.	Sept. 5-7	Carroll Fetherman
Reading Fair	Reading, Pa.	Sept. 8-15	C. W. Swoyer
Black Barren Springs	Black Barren Park	Sept. 10-12	W. F. Lollinger
Jenner Fair	Jennertown, Pa.	Sept. 10-13	A. O. Lape
Perry Co. Fair	Newport, Pa.	Sept. 10-13	A. K. Ludwig
Doylestown Fair	Doylestown, Pa.	Sept. 10-14	J. Allen Gardy
Clearfield Co. Fair	Clearfield, Pa.	Sept. 10-14	N. G. Parke
Oswayo Valley Fair	Millport, Pa.	Sept. 11-14	Wayne Torrey
South Mt. Fair	Arendtsville, Pa.	Sept. 11-14	A. H. Seeley
Lycoming Co. Fair	Hughesville, Pa.	Sept. 11-14	E. E. Frontz
Mansfield Fair	Mansfield, Pa.	Sept. 11-14	Frank Marvin
Derry Twp. Fair	Derry, Pa.	Sept. 12-14	J. A. Greubel
Conneautville Fair	Conneautville, Pa.	Sept. 12-14	Kenneth Mowry
Millersburg Fair	Millersburg, Pa.	Sept. 12-14	Neil B. March
Edinboro Fair	Edinboro, Pa.	Sept. 12-14	N. P. Manners
Greene Twp. Fair	Starford, Pa.	Sept. 12-14	E. E. Nupp
West Alexander Fair	West Alexander, Pa.	Sept. 12-14	Paul Rogers
Sugar Grove Fair	Sugar Grove, Pa.	Sept. 12-14	T. R. Sponsler
Lehigh Co. Fair	Allentown, Pa.	Sept. 17-21	M. H. Beary
West Lampeter Fair	Lampeter, Pa.	Sept. 18-20	W. B. Rentscheler
Gratz Agri. Fair	Gratz, Pa.	Sept. 18-21	Guy R. Klinger
Wayne Co. Fair	Honesdale, Pa.	Sept. 18-21	R. W. Gammell
Benton Twp. Fair	Fleetville, Pa.	Sept. 18-21	Byron K. Horner
Spartansburg Fair	Spartansburg, Pa.	Sept. 19-21	J. A. Whitney
North East Fair	North East, Pa.	Sept. 19-21	Mrs. M. E. Hendrickson
Manor Farm Show	Millersville, Pa.	Sept. 25-27	Howard P. Siglin
Manheim Fair	Manheim, Pa.	Sept. 26-28	E. A. Aued
Pleasant Valley Grange Fair	Wooddale, Pa.	Oct. 1-5	Eugene Keefer
York Co. Fair	York, Pa.	Oct. 1-5	John H. Rutter
Turbotville Fair	Turbotville, Pa.	Oct. 2-5	Calvin Menges
Beaver Fair	Beaver, Pa.	Oct. 3-4	B. Paul Ross
New Holland Fair	New Holland, Pa.	Oct. 3-5	I. W. Cauller
Hollidaysburg Fair	Hollidaysburg, Pa.	Oct. 9-11	Glenn Bressler
Myerstown Fair	Myerstown, Pa.	Oct. 9-11	J. B. Woodford
Ephrata Fair	Ephrata, Pa.	Oct. 9-12	I. E. Fasnacht
Montour-Delong Fair	Washington, Pa.	Oct. 16-18	Walter J. Lewis
Franklin Co. Fair	Franklin, Pa.	Oct. 16-18	C. D. Sutton
Mount Joy Fair	Mt. Joy, Pa.	Oct. 17-19	Robert Hostetter
Lower Mahonoy Fair	Dalmatia, Pa.	Oct. 17-19	Neal B. Witmer
Northern Bedford Co. Fair	Yellow Creek, Pa.	Oct. 17-19	Howard F. Fox
Antis Twp. Fair	Bellwood, Pa.	Oct. 17-19	Chas. R. Hetrick
Unionville Fair	Unionville, Pa.	Oct. 24-26	Roland Conard
Morrison Cove Fair	Martinsburg, Pa.	Oct. 24-26	Ella S. Ebersole
Upper Perkiomen Valley Fair	East Greenville, Pa.	Nov. 13-15	V. S. Ensminger

DOG DAYS ARE A MYTH

In accordance with the superstitious view of some persons, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture, more dogs are supposed to get rabies or go mad during the mythical so-called "dog days" than during other seasons of the year. Dog days were designated by the Ancients as the time from the rising to the setting of Sirius, the Dog Star; and are variously referred to as the period from July to early September—the Fifty Dog Days.

The fallacy of the belief is shown by statistical data which furnishes evidence that during the period of fifteen years from 1925 to 1939, the total number of cases of rabies in Pennsylvania was less during the months of July and August than any other months. The month showing the highest average for the fifteen years was March, and the month with the lowest average was August, when "Dog Days" were at their height and when the superstitiously evil dog star was producing its mythical effects.

Rabies is a virus disease and may occur in all warm blooded animals and in man in any climate and during all seasons of the year. The virus is transmitted in the saliva to animals or persons when bitten by an animal afflicted with the disease. From the standpoint of a higher prevalence of rabies, "Dog Days" is a myth, imaginary, a superstitious or false belief with no reliable foundation and not verifiable by existing facts.

PEACH PROSPECTS PROMISING

Pennsylvania Peach Growers have good prospects for marketing an excellent crop of peaches this season, according to a report by John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture.

Barring unusual hail damage or other damaging weather conditions between now and harvest, the 1940 crop of Pennsylvania peaches is expected to be one of the best in many years. The Pennsylvania Growers are expecting favorable market conditions during the harvest period, the latter part of August and the early part of September, since the crops in most of the states which harvest peaches to compete with the Pennsylvania fruit are considerably lighter than a year ago.

The Pennsylvania Crop is expected to aggregate 2½ million bushels, making the production the third largest of any state in the Union.

APIARY INSPECTION PROCEEDS RAPIDLY

For the first time, the Department of Agriculture has a definite program of apiary inspection. Cool weather with excess of rain in some counties has not been too favorable for inspection work. However, on July 13, 1940, a total of 5,593 apiaries and 29,622 colonies had been inspected. At this rate the program of work planned will be completed within the specified time.

During the month of June, Pennsylvania Dog Owners secured 18,404 individual licenses and 21 kennel licenses, making a total to date for the year of 523,101 individual licenses and 703 kennel licenses. Local police officers disposed of 2029 stray dogs during the month.

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Industry Laboratory examined during the month of June 53,620 specimens of animals, animal tissue, blood, excreta, parasites and miscellaneous specimens.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS

TEN HIGH PENS TO JULY 20, 1940

Owner	*State*	*Breed*	*Rank*	*Points To Date*	*Eggs To Date*
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	3138.60	3030
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	3017.65	2936
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	3	2913.90	2808
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	4	2897.60	2743
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	5	2813.45	2687
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	2796.25	2761
J. A. Hanson	Oregon	SCWL	7	2759.20	2647
Creighton Brothers	Indiana	SCWL	8	2750.85	2655
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	9	2747.10	2628
Rinker Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	10	2738.05	2608

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO JULY 20, 1938-1940

Year	*Percent Production*	*Average Points Per Bird*	*Average Eggs Per Bird*	*Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.*
1938, all 13 birds	49.97	148.46	146.92	24.2
1939, all 13 birds	57.92	175.98	170.28	24.7
1940, all 13 birds	59.70	179.83	175.53	24.5

HARRISBURG, PA. OCT. 12-19, 1940 NATIONAL DAIRY SHOW

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE 1940

PREVENT SPREAD OF ANIMAL DISEASES

Dr. C. P. Bishop, Director, Bureau of Animal Industry, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, says that herd management and the correlation of such agencies, when effectively employed, give to the herd owner animals economically productive and physically sound.

Herds maintained in an excellent state of health are usually the result of good herd management. By good herd management, we not only mean the care and attention received in the way of feeding, stabling, bedding, etc., but also careful attention to the prevention, control and eradication of disease.

The successful herd owner knows that sound practical measures of disease prevention are worth more to him than treatment and control. However, we know that the ideal of perfection in preventive measures has not been reached insofar as nature is concerned; so that when such preventive measures as we now have fail, and disease occurs, other steps must be taken to effectively control and eliminate the disease.

The problem with which the farmer or the owner of livestock has to deal, is what to do with an animal that becomes ill. He does not know at the onset of illness whether or not the animal is infected with a transmissible disease. A good system of herd or flock management calls for the immediate isolation of any animal that becomes sick, whether it be a chicken, hog, sheep, horse or cow. Following isolation, the local veterinarian should be consulted. His diagnosis is a strong factor in determining the true status.

The history of the case, symptoms shown, and the fact whether or not more animals appear to be affected, all assist him in arriving at a satisfactory diagnosis. In addition to isolation, if deemed advisable by the veterinarian, specimens may be sent to a laboratory where further studies, tests and inoculations may be made. The Penna. Bureau of Animal Industry maintains a Laboratory offering a service to aid the veterinarian, and consequently livestock owners, in the establishment of a proper diagnosis from the standpoint of either confirming his belief in that he is dealing with a transmissible disease or the elimination of that possibility.

All sick animals should be considered potential spreaders of disease and held in isolation until examined by a veterinarian. Cases are on record where one animal, thought by the farmer as just being a little "off feed," was left to mingle with the other animals, with the result that later there were a few more sick, and by the time a veterinarian was consulted, the condition was serious and much damage was done.

State and Federal Bureaus of Animal Industry, in cooperation with the local practicing veterinarians, establish a state and nation-wide protective service in herd management and disease control. They are ever-vigilant in their guard against the outbreak of certain transmissible diseases, and seek to control and eradicate other diseases. Through regulations concerning the shipment of animals, establishment of disease-free herds and flocks, disease control and eradication programs, research, laboratory examinations and numerous other duties, they form a bulwark of defense for the protection of livestock owners. In order for the Federal and State disease control groups to properly function, it is essential in practically all cases that they function through and have the full support of practicing veterinarians, as well as herd and flock owners.

BLACK WIDOW SPIDER REALLY A WIDOW

Food habits of the Black Widow Spider—one of the few poisonous insects, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture—are similar to those of most other spiders, and the female shows a tendency towards cannibalism in that it has a habit of eating its mate, thus becoming a self-made widow.

This spider usually builds its web in dimly lighted places such as corners of garages, cellars, basements, barns, sheds and other similar frame structures. The web is an irregular criss-cross of coarse threads ending in a funnel shaped tube. This leads generally to some crack or hole in which the spider awaits its prey. Attached nearby are the egg cases, a whitish wrapped ball somewhat larger than a pea in which 400 to 500 eggs may be found.

The fact that the Black Widow Spider seems to prefer the above mentioned home surroundings accounts for the accidental biting of persons who come in contact with it. Persons bitten by this spider, or suffering from symptoms suspected to be spider bites, should consult a physician as soon as possible.

It is suggested that the destruction of webs, egg cases and spiders are the obvious methods of control. Spraying with oil has been resorted to on occasions, and the use of household fly sprays has been effective under certain conditions.

SEVENTEEN YEAR LOCUST DAMAGE

Damage to tip branches of forest and fruit trees is common in all areas visited by the seventeen year locust this year, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. The effect is so pronounced in some sections, that from a distance the trees look completely brown. This killing was caused by the puncturing of the small branches by the female locust in laying her eggs. Most of these twigs will be broken off later by the wind and fall to the ground. The eggs have already hatched and the young locusts, finding their way to the ground, dig in, but will return to the light of day as adult locusts or cicadas seventeen years later.

HOG CHOLERA CONTROL

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture reports that there were 5,125 swine vaccinated against hog cholera in 156 premises in Pennsylvania during the month of June. The serum-virus method was used on 86 premises consisting of 3,437 swine, and on 70 premises consisting of 1,688 swine the single method was used. Six premises were quarantined on account of the presence of hog cholera during the month of June.

FARM PRODUCTS INSPECTION POPULAR

The official inspection of fruits and vegetables for canning and for shipment to points in many different parts of the world, will begin in Pennsylvania about August 15th and continue during the harvest and storage season throughout the fall and winter months, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. The peak of this work is reached in September, October and November, and a record season is in prospect.

Requests for this inspection are greater than last year, due to the increasing demand for inspection of products for canning, to increased grading of Pennsylvania-grown potatoes and to generally favorable fruit crops, particularly peaches. The inspectors who perform these services are licensed by the State Department of Agriculture, but are employed by the canneries and fruit packing plants through the State Horticultural Association.

Last year more than 2500 carloads of apples, peaches, grapes, and potatoes were certified as to grade, and in addition, nearly two and three quarter million pounds of cannery products were classified. These cannery products included apples, tomatoes, peas, cherries, beans, grapes and berries.

According to Secretary Light, Pennsylvania will stand third of all the states in the production of peaches this year, fifth in the production of grapes and potatoes, probably third or fourth in the production of apples, and will rate as the fourth largest canning state in the Union.

The standardization and grading assistance of the State Department through its inspection services has done much to aid growers, canners, shippers and distributors, the Secretary explains. This work has assisted materially in securing for Pennsylvania canned and fresh farm products an enviable reputation on principal markets of the state and nation.

FARM FACTS

By the time the Apiary Inspection Program of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture for the present season is completed, over 8000 apiaries containing approximately 50,000 colonies of bees will have been inspected.

The chief object of this work is the control of bee diseases. The Department recognizes not only the value of the honey and wax crops, but also the very great importance of bees to the fruit grower and producer of other crops in the pollination of blossoms.

390 stallions have been licensed in Pennsylvania during the first six months of the year by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Animal Industry.

155 claims for damages to livestock and poultry by dogs were investigated and appraised by agents of the Department of Agriculture during the month of June.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS
TEN HIGH PENS TO JULY 27, 1940

Owner	*State*	*Breed*	*Rank*	*Points To Date*	*Eggs To Date*
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	3205.20	2094
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	3079.95	2995
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	3	2962.85	2853
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	4	2956.75	2798
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	5	2864.95	2827
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	6	2862.30	2733
Rinker Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	7	2813.40	2679
J. A. Hanson	Oregon	SCWL	8	2811.20	2696
Creighton Brothers	Indiana	SCWL	9	2810.55	2711
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	10	2794.85	2672

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO JULY 27, 1938-1940

Year	*Percent Production*	*Average Points Per Bird*	*Average Eggs Per Bird*	*Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.*
1938, all 13 birds	49.71	151.33	149.62	24.2
1939, all 13 birds	57.45	179.61	174.66	24.7
1940, all 13 birds	59.37	183.14	178.67	24.5

NATIONAL DAIRY SHOW — HARRISBURG, PA. — OCT. 12 - 19, 1940

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

Vol. 25 | Harrisburg, August 15, 1940 | No. 32

5 - 340

1940 SOIL TEMPERATURES ABNORMALLY LOW

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, in its program of control and eradication of Potato Wart Disease, has maintained stations for the recording of soil temperatures in various sections of Pennsylvania.

These temperature recordings over a period of years have now produced some interesting facts and scientific data. According to these daily records, on the average, the daily warm period has been running approximately two hours shorter per day during 1940 as compared with the corresponding period in previous years, during which similar records have been taken.

These reports all show that up to July 15th, frost still remained in the ground at a depth of 5 feet at points in Sullivan County. This soil condition undoubtedly has an important influence in the resulting soil temperatures, and a bearing upon crop production.

TOMATO ACREAGE CONTINUES INCREASE

Tomato growing for canning purposes is increasing at a rate which is rapidly placing Pennsylvania in the ranks of the leading tomato states of the Nation, Secretary of Agriculture, John H. Light, announced today. He characterized the gains in tomato acreage as an outstanding agricultural trend in the state.

Only 3,400 acres were devoted to the growing of the "improved love apple" in 1929, but this has grown to more than 18,000 acres this year, an increase of nearly 450% in 12 years.

A large part of this tremendous growth is due to tomato juice manufacture, which has grown rapidly in Pennsylvania because the solid, highly colored and well ripened Keystone-State tomatoes excel not only in the manufacture of prime tomato juice, but also in the canning of whole tomatoes, in soups and in the manufacture of many other tomato products. So favorable are the Pennsylvania climate and soil conditions to the growing of tomatoes, that the buyers of raw stock for the largest canning plants in the world state that "Pennsylvania is the heart of the tomato belt of the Country. The climate, rich and well-tended farm lands, and the nearness to markets make Pennsylvania the center of this great industry. Tomatoes are grown to the east, west, north and south of Pennsylvania, but because of ideal conditions of growth and location, a much greater future for tomato growing is in store for the Keystone-State."

FEWER JAP BEETLES REPORTED IN PHILA.

In looking over reports from the Bureau of Plant Industry, Secretary of Agriculture John H. Light notes a tremendous decrease in the Japanese Beetle population in Philadelphia this year as compared to reports issued in previous years, and especially during the same comparative week in 1931.

This year, on July 20, the report shows that inspectors found no beetles on this date in Rittenhouse Square or Independence Square, and only two beetles on plants near City Hall Court, three on weeds near Christ Church Cemetery, and seven on shrubs at Logan Circle. Under the same date in 1931, with weather conditions similar, the report shows heavy flights of beetles on the Inspection Platform near the Delaware River Bridge, and also the Dock Street Market, with many beetles found dead in this area on the streets. A general survey in the lower part of the City showed many beetles in flight, with the trees turning brown as the result of beetle feeding.

As the consequence of this condition, which prevailed for several years preceding this date, it became necessary to place an embargo on the movement of produce from City markets during daylight hours.

Up to the 24th of July this year, the beetles had appeared in less numbers in many localities, although there are a few places in Lancaster and some of the nearby counties where the beetle is numerous enough to cause considerable damage.

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Department of Agriculture
Harrisburg

FALL POULTRY WORK BEING ORGANIZED

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture announces that the program in flock selection and bloodtesting of poultry last year was one of the largest in the history of the work. Present indications, according to requests coming into the Department this year, are that calls for this service will be even greater than last year.

Poultry owners desiring to have their flocks handled for breed types and egg production by official representatives of the Department, should advise the Department prior to September first, as schedules for this work are now being set up. Hatcherymen and flock owners are requested to specify the number of birds and the approximate dates most satisfactory to them. Such information is used to accommodate the producers as well as to schedule the work by areas, both of which add to the efficiency of the program. Should requests exceed those of last year, which totalled more than 350,000 birds in 520 flocks located in 45 counties, it may not be possible to expand the facilities sufficiently to care for requests received at a later date.

Application blanks, as well as rules and regulations governing the work, may be secured by writing to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg, Pa.

SAFE INSECTICIDES

Persons, particularly the average homeowner, who are interested in finding a safe insecticide or one which is less risky to have about the home, should consider one of the newer preparations containing rotonone, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. When used as directed, these materials are effective against many of our more common pests, but are harmless to man and other warm blooded animals.

The point to be certain about is that the insect to be controlled is one for which the material is intended, and in all cases, the material should be used according to directions given on the package.

SUNSHINE IMPORTANT FOR ANIMAL HEALTH

Dr. M. F. Barnes of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Diagnostic Laboratory is a strong believer in adequate sunshine for the control and eradication of many diseases as well as for proper growth and development of our farm animals.

Sunshine and health go hand in hand, and certain diseases are sure to occur in the absence of Sunshine.

Sunshine contributes to health in many ways. It not only furnishes necessary vitamins and aids in normal assimilation of foods, but also kills disease producing germs and molds.

Damp musty stables need more sunshine. Baby animals and birds need sunshine. Baby chicks kept in a dark cellar do not thrive properly, and soon some of them die. Put them out in the sunshine and, like a plant under similar conditions, they soon cheer up and show evidence of vigorous health. Many weaklings in calves are from a similar cause, and also probably have breathed their lungs full of molds.

Stables constructed with plenty of windows on the sunny side are well constructed from the standpoint of sunshine. There are plenty of barns in Pennsylvania still, where proper facilities for vigorous growth of animals are not provided. The owners of such stables should get a new view and LET THE SUNSHINE THROUGH.

ENORMOUS LOSSES DUE TO PESTS

Although it is impossible to measure accurately the total damage caused by destructive pests, it is estimated, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, that about 6000 species of insects collectively destroy $2,000,000,000 worth of property each year in America. Also, it is estimated that 36 out of these 6000 pests cause about half of the total damage.

Department officials state that it should be emphasized that at least two-thirds of this damage is preventable if proper known control methods were put into actual practice.

Public agencies are available to advise farmers on proper control methods, and to advise them of new materials as well as new methods of control being developed by our Experimental Stations.

Although the 1940 honey season is not over, reports indicate a crop to date in excess of average and the outlook very good for the fall flow.

Early potatoes are reported to have set well and stands are fairly even. Weather has been favorable to date, with digging of the commercial crop close at hand.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS
TEN HIGH PENS TO AUG. 3, 1940

Owner	*State*	*Breed*	*Rank*	*Points To Date*	*Eggs To Date*
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	3275.65	3162
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	3128.80	3042
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	3	3026.75	2912
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	4	3010.75	2849
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	5	2929.65	2889
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	6	2907.75	2776
Rinker Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	7	2881.55	2744
Creighton Brothers	Indiana	SCWL	8	2860.80	2758
J. A. Hanson	Oregon	SCWL	9	2860.40	2742
E. B. Parmenter	Massachusetts	RIR	10	2842.35	2716

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO AUG. 3, 1938-1940

Year	*Percent Production*	*Average Points Per Bird*	*Average Eggs Per Bird*	*Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.*
1938, all 13 birds	49.45	154.15	152.31	24.2
1939, all 13 birds	57.60	183.10	177.42	24.7
1940, all 13 birds	58.99	186.28	181.68	24.5

NATIONAL DAIRY SHOW — HARRISBURG, PA. — OCT. 12 - 19, 1940

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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1-1940

HOT WEATHER REQUIRES SPECIAL CARE OF EGGS

According to all of the reports received recently by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture from the egg consuming markets, the extremely hot weather has been a very important factor in determining egg prices to producers. There is a definite indication that the conditions have affected the quality, which in turn reduces the prices paid by receivers.

In view of the fact that the hot weather is likely to continue for another few weeks, it is desirable that special precautions be taken by producers and marketing agencies to exert every possible effort to take better care of their eggs. The scarcity of good quality eggs will most likely cause the market price to trend upward for eggs that will grade in the upper classes, therefore the advantage in exerting extra care will be reflected almost immediately.

The bulk of the eggs now moving to markets have been affected by weather and other market conditions, which places them in the position of competing for consumer acceptance which is seriously lacking on low or medium quality.

Practically all of the cooperative egg selling organizations have included air conditioning in their egg holding rooms, which assists in maintaining the quality delivered by producers. Producers cannot have expensive equipment for holding their eggs, but they should use any natural or home-made storage facilities to the best possible advantage during the quality depreciating period.

MANY ANIMAL DEATHS CAUSED BY POISONING

"Suspected poisoning" from plants, spoiled food and criminal or careless use of poisons is a frequent provisional diagnosis when animals are sick from an unknown cause, according to Veterinarians in the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

Accidental and criminal poisoning cause many deaths in animals, resulting in an enormous loss to the livestock industry.

Requirements of modern agriculture have brought to the farm many toxic substances formerly unknown by the dairy farmer. Examples are nitrate of soda for fertilizer, arsenate of lead for destroying plant pests, calcium cyanide for poisoning of wood chucks, and cresol and other poisonous substances under a myriad of trade names.

Overstocking of dry pastures or ranges often leads to the eating of plants not commonly consumed, such as lupines, poison hemlock, water hemlock, laurel, bracken fern, white snakeroot and prussic acid producing plants.

Even though information on poisonous plants is still quite incomplete, much valuable information on many of the most poisonous plants is now definitely known and available. It is extremely important that the livestock owner be familiar with at least the more common poisonous plants, to determine if some of the plants may be present at various times in his pastures, thereby preventing possible losses in his livestock by eradicating the poisonous plants, or preventing the livestock from having access to pastures containing such plants.

Livestock will eat poisonous plants more readily when the pasture is scant than when the forage plants are in a thrifty growing state. This is quite noticeable in late summer when cattle will eat some poisonous plants in the absence of good pasture. Sometimes an unhealthy animal may nibble at plants that it would not touch if in the best physical condition. In this way a depraved appetite may be acquired for a poisonous plant.

If it is known that poisonous plants are growing where livestock can get them, the plants should be eradicated. When the pasturage is scant and the drinking water is low and stagnant, the animals should be given additional forage before being turned into the pasture, and clean pure water should be available, especially when the weather is hot and dry.

When an animal becomes sick, it is difficult and often impossible to determine the cause. If poisonous plants in the pasture are suspected, not only the sick animals, but the entire herd should be removed at once. Place the sick animals where they cannot do any physical injury to themselves, and send for a veterinarian at once. Search the pasture and examine feed for poisonous plants or materials. Do not resume using the suspected feed, or return the animals to the pasture until the cause of the trouble is determined.

COCCIDIOSIS CAUSES HEAVY CHICK LOSSES

At three weeks of age, and occasionally at an earlier age, a very serious loss producing disease of young chicks—namely coccidiosis—may make its appearance in poultry flocks, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

This disease is caused by microscopic parasites called coccidia, and the name coccidiosis is derived from the name of the causative parasites. Infection is dependent upon the chick ingesting and picking up the parasite eggs, which are called oocysts.

The coccidia, after gaining entrance to the intestines by way of the mouth, invade the walls of the intestinal tract, where they multiply at a very rapid rate and cause much damage to the tissues. Finally, oocysts or egg forms are produced, which pass out of the body with the fecal material.

The oocysts, after leaving the bird by way of the droppings, are not immediately capable of infecting a bird, but must undergo further development or sporulation outside of the bird. This ripening process, under favorable conditions of warmth and moisture, requires from one to three days. In this form (sporulated oocysts) the coccidia may live for periods as long as one year, possibly much longer periods, and still be capable of producing the disease when taken in by susceptible birds. Coccidia in this stage may be carried from place to place by shoes, crates, feed bags, insects, etc. They are killed by freezing and temperatures above 104 degrees Fahrenheit, but are resistant to disinfectants in common use.

Coccidiosis is essentially a disease of the intestinal tract, and is divided into two types, depending upon which part of the tract is involved. The cecal, or socalled bloody type, which is characterized by extensive bloody droppings, attacks the ceca or blind pouches, and is most commonly observed in chicks from three to twelve weeks of age. The intestinal type, which is in some cases called chronic coccidiosis, affects the main portion of the intestines and usually occurs in older birds, with rather indefinite external manifestations such as droopiness, blood-tinged mucous in the droppings, and emaciation. In these different forms of coccidiosis, a definite diagnosis can be made only by a careful microscopic examination of the droppings and intestinal scrapings.

Medicinal treatment has little or no value in the cure of coccidiosis—all socalled treatments are useful only insofar as they help the bird to eliminate the parasites from the system. Probably more so than in any other disease, strict sanitation is the only effective means of control. An early diagnosis is important, and the immediate removal of birds known to be affected. If the disease is suspected in a flock, a veterinarian should be consulted at once, and measures instituted to diminish the number of infective parasites available for reinfection.

COUNTY FAIR DATES

Manor Farm Show, Millersville, Pa., Sept. 26-28, Howard P. Siglin, Secy.; Washington Co. Agr. Fair, Washington, Pa., Sept. 18-21, J. R. Henderson, Secy.; Bradford Co. Agr. Society, Towanda, Pa., Aug. 27-30, V. L. Grenell, Secy.; Mifflin Fair, Newville, Pa., Aug. 27-31, A. E. Miller, Secy.; Bloomsburg Fair, Bloomsburg, Pa., Sept. 23-28, Harry B. Correll, Secy.; Ligonier Valley, Ligonier, Pa., Sept. 17-20; Lehighton Fair, Lehighton, Pa., Aug. 26-31, Frank R. Diehl, Secy.

SEED POTATO FIELDS GET FIRST INSPECTION

The first inspection of potato fields for seed certification is being completed by agents of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. There are approximately 1525 acres of potatoes entered for inspection, which are composed of the following varieties and listing the acreage for each: Russet Rural 765, White Rural 245, Katahdin 283, Cobbler & Nittany 142, Bliss Triumph 39, Chippewa 39, Houma 10, Green Mountains 2.

This year, there were approximately 135 growers in 25 counties who will receive inspections, as compared with 1208 acres in 1939 entered for certification by 92 growers in 16 counties.

Conditions this year have been very favorable for making potato inspections. While there has been some very hot weather, the weather generally has been quite cool and favorable for potato growing. Diseases are more easily identified during seasons of cool temperature than during periods of hot weather. High temperatures have a tendency to mask certain potato diseases, making it difficult to identify and rogue them out.

Potato fields under inspection have been making good growth, although the stands in some cases are not up to normal. Cold wet weather shortly after planting is thought to have rotted seed pieces in the ground before they germinated. Fields are being rejected for disease, improper isolation from other diseased fields, poor stands, and poor culture conditions.

Late Blight has appeared in several counties, but up to the end of July it had not done any serious damage. The recent hot weather is maturing the early crop in the southeastern part of the State. Present prospects indicate a good crop will be harvested.

TOMATO CROP BENEFIT TO MANY

The steady increase in the production of tomatoes in Pennsylvania is a boon not only to growers and canners, but also to cannery workers, to transportation interests, and to cannery supply people, which includes those who furnish coal, cans, labels, cartons, machinery, plants, seeds and the countless other essentials necessary to the canning industry, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. In breaking down the canned tomato dollar, Secretary Light points out the grower receives 25c, labor 18c, for can, cases, labels, etc. 39c, selling costs 6c, for taxes, insurance and other fixed charges 7c, and undivided, which includes depreciation, interest on investment and profits 5c.

The principal tomato sections of the State in the past have included York, Franklin, and Cumberland Counties. In recent years, large acreages have also been planted in Adams, Erie, Lancaster, Lebanon, Columbia, Bucks and Schuylkill Counties. Much of this increased acreage has been contracted for by large producers of national renown, who have been attracted to Pennsylvania because of the excellent conditions which exist here for the growing and canning of high quality tomato products. This growth has been so great and the cash return to growers has been so satisfactory, that it is not difficult to see a still greater increase in the tomato canning industry of the State within the next decade.

According to the State Supervising Inspector, approximately 90% of the 1940 Pennsylvania harvest will be purchased under Federal grades and State inspection. The good reputation of Pennsylvania canned tomato products is due in large part to the improvement of quality through State grading during the past few years.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS
TEN HIGH PENS TO AUG. 10, 1940

Owner	*State*	*Breed*	*Rank*	*Points To Date*	*Eggs To Date*
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	3339.00	3223
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	3186.35	3097
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	3	3089.60	2970
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	4	3067.55	2902
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	5	2990.00	2947
Rinker Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	2948.10	2807
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	7	2946.20	2812
Creighton Brothers	Indiana	SCWL	8	2911.95	2806
J. A. Hanson	Oregon	SCWL	9	2904.20	2783
Missouri Valley Hatchery	Missouri	SCWL	10	2896.95	2845

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO AUG. 10, 1938-1940

Year	*Percent Production*	*Average Points Per Bird*	*Average Eggs Per Bird*	*Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.*
1938, all 13 birds	49.21	156.91	155.01	24.2
1939, all 13 birds	57.24	186.39	180.32	24.7
1940, all 13 birds	58.61	189.39	184.63	24.5

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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BARBERRY REMOVAL AIDS OATS YIELD

A POINT of interest, in connection with the Barberry Eradication Program for the control of cereal rust, is noted in reports of the Division of Crop Reporting of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture on production of oats in certain Pennsylvania counties.

Barberry eradication work was started by the Federal and State Departments of Agriculture in Lackawanna and Susquehanna Counties in the fall of 1935, and by the end of 1938, the major portion of the agricultural areas in these two counties had been covered.

The crop reports show that during the four crop years (1936-1939) following the start of the eradication work, as compared with the four years (1932-1935) preceding, total production of oats in these two counties increased as follows:

For Lackawanna County, an increase of 133,170 bushels in total production, or 30.7%; for Susquehanna County, an increase of 406,020 bushels, or 33.3%.

The reports also indicate some increase in acreage in these two counties, but it appears that this increase may be more apparent than real, since crop failures which were more frequent during the earlier period are not included in the estimates. The Department is cooperating in the expansion of this work in other Oat-growing Counties in North Eastern and North Western Sections of the State.

BANG'S DISEASE WORK CONTINUES PROGRESS

THE eradication and control of Bang's disease, by the Bureau of Animal Industry, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with the Federal Bureau of Animal Industry, provides for the diagnosis of the infection by agglutination blood tests, removal of infected animals, thorough disinfecting of the premises and the promotion of the herd under sanitary principles.

The testing of herds for Bang's disease under the Area Plan in Pennsylvania has been conducted in 24 counties—424 townships. 18 complete counties have been tested for Bang's disease under the Individual or Area Plans as follows: Butler, Cameron, Clarion, Columbia, Crawford, Elk, Forest, Juniata, Armstrong, Indiana, Jefferson, Lawrence, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Venango, Wyoming, Clinton and Clearfield.

All of the above counties, except Lawrence, Susquehanna and Wyoming, have qualified as Modified Accredited Bang's Disease Free Areas by reason of the infection having been reduced to one percent or less of the cattle tested, and five percent or less of the total number of herds tested. 11 of the above accredited counties qualified since January 1, 1939.

On July 1, 1940, throughout the state, there were 10,410 herds comprising 195,473 cattle blood tested for Bang's disease under the Individual Plan, of which 5,110 herds and 102,034 cattle are certified as Bang's Disease Free; and 47,138 herds comprising 302,581 cattle in 424 townships of the Commonwealth, or a total of 57,548 herds (498,054 cattle) tested under Federal-State supervision.

A total of 70 goat herds, comprising 674 animals, has been tested for Bang's disease under official supervision. Of this number, 14 herds (262 goats) are certified as Bang's Disease Free.

There has been such a favorable response to the Bang's disease program that the Department has not been in a position to authorize the tests of herds under either plan as rapidly as the herds are being signed up for test. It has been necessary to list for test and authorize them in the order in which applications have been received and the townships qualified for test.

On July 1, 1940, there were 272 herds, comprising 3,679 cattle, under the Individual Plan; and approximately 147,700 cattle in 211 townships under the Area Plan waiting assignment for initial test.

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FRESH TOMATOES VALUABLE IN DIET

THE Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture reports that the Pennsylvania Tomato Crop is one of the finest ever grown in the State, and urges housewives to make provision for their canning needs while the fruit is of highest quality. A new home-grown tomato, even though it be of only medium size, will provide about one-half of an individual's requirements for Vitamin C for a single day, and about one-fifth of the Vitamin A needs for a day. It will also contribute, in addition, some Vitamin B1, and Vitamin G, as well as other essential elements.

One cup of tomato juice, fairly thick with pulp, will give all the Vitamin C an ordinary person's system can use in one day.

Care should be taken in making tomato juice at home, and only fully ripe firm tomatoes, as freshly picked as possible, should be used. The use of stainless steel knives, as well as avoiding utensils of copper, brass and iron, is recommended in order to preserve the natural flavor and color of the fruit during processing.

A checkup of all unlicensed livestock dealers has been started by the Department of Agriculture. Several prosecutions have been lodged and, in each case, dealers operating without a license in violation of the law have been fined $50.00 and costs of prosecution. All unlicensed dealers are warned to give this matter their immediate attention.

During July, Poultry Inspectors of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture selected 21,266 birds in 21 flocks located in 11 counties, and officially inspected eggs equivalent to 19 carloads.

Fruit and Vegetable Inspectors were located in 2 Pea Canneries, 4 Cherry Canneries, 1 Currant and Strawberry Processing Plant, 1 Bean Cannery, and 3 Raspberry Canneries in the State, where the farmers' products are being purchased according to grades.

STORAGE PLANTS AND MEAT DEALERS WARNED

RECENTLY a practice, or perhaps it should be termed a trend, of merchandising has sprung up in some sections of the State which is in violation of two very important State Acts, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture.

In most cases, persons violating these acts were entirely ignorant of the seriousness of their actions. Quite a few merchants operating retail meat markets were buying meats of questionable origin to be sold to customers as dog food.

The Acts of Legislature referred to above are the Meat Hygiene Act of 1915-39 and the Tank Act of 1929. These Acts specifically state that unwholesome meat of any description intended for animal feeding shall not be stored or handled in any establishment wherein foods for human consumption are handled, stored or sold.

A large percentage of the meat in question originated in rendering plants, dead animal plants and concerns of a like nature, and therefore could not be considered as anything but unwholesome. Such meat may have been the carcass of an animal which died of disease, accident, poisoning, emaciation or many other conditions, and to place it in a refrigerator with meats intended for human consumption would be a hazard.

From the human standpoint, the handling of such meats in a cooler, over the same block, or cutting with the same knife used to cut wholesome meats is dangerous and liable to contamination. Besides, the butcher himself is subject to infection or even a more serious illness should he have a scratch or cut on his hand and handle such meat.

Secretary Light states that in many localities, merchants have a clientele that will readily purchase meats for their canine friends. The best way for the merchant to handle this situation is to buy a cheap piece of beef—that is, so to speak, a low grade of beef, such as cow beef, from the abattoir where the rest of the supplies are purchased. By so doing, the merchant is aware of the fact that the meat originated in an abattoir under proper conditions. Cold storage plants in different locations have taken meat of this type in for storage. The violations were made innocently and when the attention of the owners was called to the Cold Storage Act, the violations were discontinued.

The Department wishes to advise all meat markets, meat venders, and cold storage warehouses at this time that the storing, handling, or selling of any unwholesome meat or meat food product in any establishment or building wherein meats or meat food products are stored, handled or sold for human consumption is a violation of the law. If convicted in a summary proceeding, the violator is subject to a fine of $500.00 and three months in the County Jail. Play safe—sell only wholesome meats even for dog food, and don't place anything in your cooler that is of a doubtful origin.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS

TEN HIGH PENS TO AUG. 17, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	3404.10	3285
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	3241.55	3149
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	3	3145.90	3022
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	4	3121.55	2952
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	5	3057.05	3011
Rinker Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	3020.45	2875
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	7	2985.45	2849
Missouri Valley Hatcheries	Missouri	SCWL	8	2966.50	2911
Creighton Brothers	Indiana	SCWL	9	2965.40	2856
J. A. Hanson	Oregon	SCWL	10	2961.30	2836

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO AUG. 17, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds	48.90	159.47	157.45	24.3
1939, all 13 birds	56.93	189.51	183.33	24.7
1940, all 13 birds	58.22	192.50	187.57	24.5

NATIONAL DAIRY SHOW — HARRISBURG, PA. — OCT. 12 - 19, 1940

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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ROOT-FEEDING GRUBS CAN BE CONTROLLED

GRASS roots are severely damaged by certain leaf-feeding grubs, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. These grubs are the worm stage of such beetles as the Japanese beetle and several of our native beetles which are closely related to the Japanese beetle. Some of these grub forms remain in the ground for as many as three years, while in the case of the Japanese beetle, the grub is in the ground for one year only. Under field conditions, grassland which is known to be infested with these grubs should be plowed in the late fall and plowed rather deep. This will expose the grub worms to their natural enemies, such as birds and such insect-eating animals as the skunk. It is important that the ground be plowed in late fall, since the grubs have a tendency to migrate rather deep for the protection afforded by temperatures above freezing. The plowing should be done after they have made this migration, and late enough so that the grubs will be inactive and unable to migrate downward again. This plowed ground should be worked in early spring to again disturb the grubs and to further expose them to their natural enemies.

Under the home lawn and like conditions, grass should be protected by applications of arsenate of lead. The arsenate of lead may be applied anytime during the open season, that is, when the temperature is above freezing. However, the best time to make the application is in late summer. This is to kill the grubs of the beetle while they are small. Use ten pounds of arsenate of lead to 1,000 square feet of sod. The arsenate of lead is evenly distributed over this area and then washed in. It should be mixed with some such material as slightly moist soil or sand, using about 25 times the volume of the arsenate of lead. Where spray equipment is available, the arsenate of lead may be placed one pound in one gallon of water, and spread over the measured area, using it at the same rate—that is, ten pounds to 1,000 square feet.

SANITATION IMPORTANT IN SWINE PRODUCTION

PROSPEROUS farmers long ago recognized that hogs raised under proper conditions were profitable, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. However, as strange as it may seem, many farmers still believe that hogs cannot be healthy unless they are allowed to live in filthy quarters. Well constructed cement hog wallows are usually sanitary, if refilled with clean water at intervals, and give much comfort to the hogs in hot weather. However, the ordinary mud wallow becomes very filthy and a good breeding ground for diseases, especially internal and external parasites.

Swine sanitation involves good drainage, good light, and ventilation of buildings. A high standard of sanitation is one of the most pressing needs in this industry. It prevents worm infestation and avoids the injury which worms cause. Intestinal worms are more or less injurious to all hogs, but particularly injurious to young growing pigs.

Pigs become infested with these worms by swallowing the worm eggs which are found in the manure of infested hogs, and the wallows, pens, yards, and pastures where infested hogs have been kept. Wormy pigs are never thrifty, and there are ten times as many runts among wormy pigs as there are among litters which are raised under sanitary conditions.

Pigs grown under good conditions also grow much faster and are ready for market in a much shorter time and on much less food.

It has been estimated that 15 to 20% of feed has been saved in the growing of pigs under sanitary conditions, and this is a big factor in the production of pork; it is the difference between profit and loss.

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HOG CHOLERA PREVENTED BY PROPER TREATMENT

THE treatment of hog cholera is most beneficial when administered as a preventive rather than a curative agent, according to the Bureau of Animal Industry, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. However, in the very early stages of the disease, it seems to have some curative value. It is good practice for farmers to have their veterinarian protect their herds by inoculation when cholera exists in the neighborhood.

The Department cautions those who have had their hogs immunized against hog cholera, by the simultaneous treatment, not to become lax and fail to have the young pigs treated before they are weaned. This is the most important factor in the success of the treatment.

FARM FACTS

The quantity of wool shorn or to be shorn in the United States in 1940 is estimated at 388,692,000 pounds—the largest production on record for the Nation. Pennsylvania production is placed at 2,834,000 pounds—the 1939 crop was 2,842,000 pounds and the 1929-38 average, 3,155,000 pounds. Weight per fleece in 1940 was 7.7 pounds and the number of sheep shorn, 368,000 compared with the 10-year average of 7.5 pounds from 423,000 head.

Of the 4,622,000,000 pounds of milk produced on farms in Pennsylvania in 1939, it is estimated that 111,000,000 pounds were fed to calves, 434,000,000 pounds consumed in farm households as milk or cream, 274,000,000 pounds used for making butter on farms, 155,000,000 pounds sold wholesale as cream, 2,958,000,000 pounds as milk, and 690,000,000 pounds retailed by producers as milk or cream.

Production of timothy seed in the United States is expected to be about 16 percent smaller than last year, and 31 percent under the 10-year average. The forecast for Pennsylvania is a crop of 4600 bushels from 2,000 acres, compared with 4800 bushels harvested last year from 2,200 acres.

REMOVE DISEASED RASPBERRY PLANTS

RASPBERRY growers should inspect their plantings for diseases during the growing season and remove any plants showing symptoms of virus diseases, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. This group of diseases lives on the inside of the plant tissue, or in plant sap, and cannot be controlled by spraying as can many external diseases of plants. The means of controlling these diseases is by removing the infected plants and destroying them. The casual virus is spread from plant to plant by sucking insects. The more infected plants there are present in a planting, the greater is the chance for spread to healthy plants. All Raspberry Viruses have certain characteristics in common. Infected plants never recover, and every part of a diseased bush becomes infected so that any stock propagated from such plants is also infected.

Of the Virus diseases, Mosaic is the most serious. The basic symptoms of Mosaic infection is a mottling of the leaves, with light green or yellowish spots appearing in the normal or dark green leaf. The mottling varies from a speckling to a blistered or all yellow condition. An infected plant may show mottling on only a few leaves, or on all its leaves, depending on such factors as variety, vigor, time of season and weather conditions.

Next in importance to Mosaic of the Virus diseases is Leaf-Curl. This disease is spread from diseased to healthy plants by the small Raspberry Aphid. The term Leaf-Curl describes the symptoms of this disease, which are always noticeable throughout the growing season. Leaf-Curl is readily controlled by the same treatment as for Mosaic.

REQUEEN TO CONTROL BEE DISEASES

OBSERVATIONS made by agents of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture in conducting apiary inspections this season indicate that requeening should be given more attention in efforts to control bee diseases.

The Department urges the use of queens of good stock to requeen colonies this fall. If proper stock is selected, European Foulbrood and Sac Brood can be reduced to a minimum. A strain of bees is being developed to assist in controlling American Foulbrood, our most destructive bee disease. By requeening colonies with disease resistant stock, the percentage of disease will be considerably reduced. However, badly diseased colonies should be destroyed at this time of year, and the remaining colonies requeened. Good Italian queens are bred by most queen breeders. They are easy to handle, resistant to disease and are good honey gatherers.

To obtain best results, colonies should be requeened each year. August and September is the best time to do this work. Queens can be purchased from Pennsylvania breeders, and are reasonable in price this time of the year, and colonies are not so apt to swarm as in the spring, when they are building up for the main honey flow.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS
TEN HIGH PENS TO AUG. 24, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	3470.75	3348
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	3297.85	3202
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	3	3203.80	3075
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	4	3180.00	3006
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	5	3121.00	3072
Rinker Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	3088.65	2939
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	7	3031.25	2892
Creighton Brothers	Indiana	SCWL	8	3023.85	2910
Missouri Valley Hatchery	Missouri	SCWL	9	3020.85	2962
J. A. Hanson	Oregon	SCWL	10	3018.10	2889

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO AUG. 24, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds	48.56	161.92	159.78	24.3
1939, all 13 birds	56.60	192.52	186.22	24.7
1940, all 13 birds	57.89	195.55	190.44	24.5

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DAMAGE TO TREES BY INSECTS EXPLAINED

TWO insects have done enough damage in parts of the State this year to attract considerable attention, according to entomologists in the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. The black locust trees have, in many locations, lost the greater part of their leaves, or at least the leaves have turned brown, and on close examination, they are found to be hollowed out between the leaf layers. This work was done by an insect known as the locust leaf miner. The parent form is a beetle about one-quarter of an inch long, and is strikingly marked with black and deep orange. This insect spends the winter in this beetle stage on or near locust trees. When the young leaves are developing about the first of May or a little later, these over-wintering beetles lay their eggs on the leaves. Upon hatching, the small maggot-like grub eats its way into the inner layer of cells and eats out the portion of the leaf between the upper and lower layer. The presence of the grubs is known by the appearance of dead leaf areas. This and the feeding done by the beetle stage is responsible for the unhealthy condition of the locust trees this fall.

It is quite difficult to control this insect, since the ordinary spray applications will not reach the grub between the leaf layers. Specimen trees may be sprayed in the early spring with arsenate of lead at the rate of two pounds in one hundred gallons of water. Fortunately, this insect does not occur in large enough numbers each year to do the damage it has done this year. They are held in check by a great many parasites which prey upon the egg and beetle stages. These parasites so reduce the numbers that in certain years it is difficult to find the damage of this insect.

Another offender that has caused a great deal of damage on unsprayed fruit trees or on shade trees is the bagworm. As this common name implies, the worm or larvae stage constructs a silken bag about itself, which it carries around throughout its growing period. On the outside of this bag, bits of leaves upon which the worms have been feeding are attached. The feeding is entirely over at this time, and the female moth, which never left the bag, has laid several eggs at the lower end of the bag. These over-winter and will hatch next May to again start a generation which will feed upon the foliage of trees. Evergreens especially are severely damaged by this time of year. In the spring it is quite easy to poison these worms by an application of arsenate of lead, used at the rate of two pounds in fifty gallons of water. The best thing for the control of the insect at present is the collecting of these bags and destroying them by burning. Keep a constant lookout for the bags all winter long, and remove them just as soon as they are noticed.

A third insect that has caused some concern is the fall webworm. This worm is the immature stage of one of the moths and occurs in some parts of the State every year. They are easily controlled by spraying with arsenate of lead but, for the most part, they are usually neglected and the worms are allowed to develop and reach maturity and thus the insect increases in number.

CANNING SEASON SOON AT PEAK

THE peak of Pennsylvania's largest canning season will come during September, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture.

For the year 1940, canners contracted with Pennsylvania growers for 40,950 acres of vegetables—the largest acreage ever contracted for canning crops in the state. As recently as 1932, Pennsylvania growers grew only 16,000 acres of vegetables for canneries, Secretary Light disclosed, pointing out that the increase in the Pennsylvania canning industry has been one of the State's fastest growing agricultural enterprises, and prospects are good for more Pennsylvania farmers to improve their cash income if this industry continues its normal development.

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HEART WORM DISEASE IN DOGS INCREASES

A MARKED increase in the diagnosis of Heart Worm Disease in dogs has been reported recently in Pennsylvania, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. This may be due to a real increase in the occurrence of the disease, or it may represent the uncovering by closer examination of a condition already long established.

Increased interest in Heart Worm disease has followed the recent discovery of specific treatments. These treatments have the valuable property of eliminating the larvae already in the circulation and stopping the further reproduction of the adult females already present. It is not claimed that the mature worms are killed.

Transmission of heart worm from dog to dog is known to take place through the agency of mosquitoes. Removal of larvae from the circulating blood prevents this mode of transmission, thus eliminating a potential source of infection.

POULTRY ITEMS

MORE than 1000 chickens per day were handled by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Inspectors during the month of August, which makes this the largest August program in the history of the work, which started in 1924. Twenty farms were involved in the selection of breeding birds for egg production and breed type.

Poultrymen have indicated their desire to have their birds selected early this year to eliminate the undesirable breeders, and thus save on their feed costs, which are somewhat higher than usual at the present time. As a matter of fact, many more poultrymen than in the past have requested the services of the Department of Agriculture Inspectors, and full schedules have been arranged covering each inspector until the end of October.

August was also a banner month for Record of Performance inspections, which totalled 20 as compared to the usual 8 or 10. These inspections involve 2 days of inspection at each breeding farm, where official body and egg weights are secured to assist the Department of Agriculture in determining birds that will be entitled to certificates at the end of their 365 day laying period.

Nineteen poultry flocks are cooperating with the Department in the 1939-1940 R. O. P. work, and requests on hand indicate that an equal number will cooperate during the 1940-1941 year.

EGG GRADING WORK SHOWS INCREASE

EGG inspection service of the Department of Agriculture is showing an upward trend, as indicated by the fact that during the month of August, 4,254 cases, which represents more than 10½ cars, were inspected in the Harrisburg and Pittsburgh districts, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. In spite of the very warm weather during the month, 25 percent of the eggs inspected in the Harrisburg district graded Extras, as against 41 percent in the Pittsburgh district. The balance of the eggs in each district graded Standards.

The majority of the eggs were inspected for Institutional use, some were inspected for relief distribution, and the remainder inspected in cartons for consumer use. The cartoned eggs are sealed with Certificates of Quality, which specify the grade and serve the purpose of protecting consumer purchases.

More Institutions are requesting the grading service as they find that the quality of eggs is better and the price more reasonable. Except for instances where poultry plants are maintained for egg supplies, purchases of inspected eggs are most desirable. All types of Institutions may take advantage of the services rendered by the Department of Agriculture.

POTATO STALK BORER CAUSES DAMAGE IN LUZERNE COUNTY

THE Potato Stalk Borer appeared in harmful numbers in at least one field in Luzerne County this fall, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture.

The parent form of this borer is a weevil somewhat like the Circulio that attacks plums. It was present in this field in sufficient numbers to cause the death of most of the potato plants. This insect is not new in Pennsylvania, but it does not occur in any large numbers year after year.

It was reported as early as 1908 from Cumberland County. Other records were made in 1917. It is probable that this insect does occur in small numbers in potatoes and weeds closely related to this plant each year, and that only under very favorable conditions does it get numerous enough to cause the damage that it seems to have caused in this one District this year.

The remedy is the prompt cutting and burning of the infested potato plants and such other host plants as Jimson Weed and Nightshade. Fortunately there is only one generation of the weevil each year.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS
TEN HIGH PENS TO AUG. 31, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	3532.55	3406
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	3353.45	3254
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	3	3261.80	3128
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	4	3237.70	3059
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	5	3180.35	3128
Rinker Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	3156.20	3002
Creighton Brothers	Indiana	SCWL	7	3080.70	2962
J. A. Hanson	Oregon	SCWL	8	3079.15	2945
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	9	3073.75	2932
Missouri Valley Hatchery	Missouri	SCWL	10	3072.40	3010

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO AUG. 31, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds	48.22	164.35	162.01	24.3
1939, all 13 birds	56.26	195.46	189.04	24.7
1940, all 13 birds	57.18	198.36	193.07	24.5

NATIONAL DAIRY SHOW — HARRISBURG, PA. — OCT. 12 - 19, 1940

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

Vol. 25 | Harrisburg, September 19, 1940 | No. 37

PROMPT DIAGNOSIS OF RABIES IMPORTANT

VETERINARIANS of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture state that Rabies is primarily an animal malady and, in the vast majority of cases, is transmitted to man by the bite of a rabid dog. The virus is present in the saliva of the infected animal even before the dog manifests any symptoms of illness, and it has been shown experimentally that this infectious state may cover a period of from eight to fourteen days. With this fact in mind, all biting dogs should not be destroyed at once, but should be held carefully confined for observation under the supervision of a veterinarian. If the dog is affected with Rabies, death will usually occur within from three to five days, in which case the brain should be removed for the purpose of obtaining a laboratory diagnosis. If, instead of dying, the animal becomes normal and is alive after the two weeks, the possibility of its having been affected with Rabies is remote and the persons bitten will be saved much anxiety and perhaps the inconvenience of antirabic treatment.

In case of a bite by a rabid dog, it is of paramount importance that medical supervision be instituted immediately. In order that the proper destination may be reached in the shortest possible time, the entire head or the brain, covered with borax, should be mailed directly to the Bureau of Animal Industry Laboratory, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, P. O. Box No. 403, Harrisburg, Pa.

It is very important that specimens sent by Express should be addressed in the same manner. All packages should be properly identified by giving the name of the sender and the name of the owner.

It is important that the specimen be kept cold, with ice if necessary, to insure arrival in fresh condition. A limited quantity of dry ice may be used. Frozen brains result in delay in the examination.

In packing brain, or head, plenty of absorbent material should be used. In case an animal suspected of Rabies is killed, it should not be shot through the brain.

GARDEN SLUGS NOW ACTIVE

IN greenhouses and out of doors, during cool moist weather, celery, lettuce, and various other vegetables are sometimes severely injured by these slimy creatures sometimes referred to as snails, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. In the case of celery, injury is sometimes quite serious and is usually confined to the lower blanched portion of the stock, where the slugs will gouge out portions of the tender tissue, causing a rusty discoloration.

A slimy, silvery trail across walks, stones and smooth surfaces of the earth usually confirm the presence of this pest.

Satisfactory control can usually be secured by thoroughly spraying with Bordeaux mixture or sprinkling lime over the surface frequented by the slugs. It is also reported that good control can be secured through the use of poisoned bait. One such bait may be made by mixing one pound of calcium arsenate with 16 pounds of wheat bran and sufficient water to make a heavy mash. The correct amount of water should result in a mash which will crumble readily when falling from the hand. This bait should be scattered about the infested area in the evening, using care about making the particles very small. It is safer, since the material is poisonous, to sprinkle small quantities about for five or six days. The action of the poison is slow, so that noticeable results should not be expected within two or three days.

Since this bait is poisonous to all forms of livestock, it should be used with discretion and kept away from livestock and irresponsible persons.

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SUGGESTIONS FOR GARDEN CLEAN-UP

EVERY fall, after frost and maturity have brought about the death of the top portion of plants in the flower or vegetable garden, the problem of disposing of these vegetable remains comes up for solution, says John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. The soil conservationist likes to see all waste vegetable matter incorporated again in the soil not only for its plant food value, but also because it furnishes a supply of necessary humus. On the other hand, the plant disease specialist likes to see garden waste disposed of by burning so as to destroy, as far as possible, diseases and insects which have the habit of living over winter in the dead parts of plants.

The practical course should be to keep between these two extremes and follow the practice of burning the refuse from such garden plants as are likely to carry pests into the coming year, and the refuse from all other plants should be dug under as the soil expert advises.

Among the plants which should go on the bonfire are: Potato and tomato stalks, cucumber vines, beet leaves, beans, asparagus tops, celery refuse; and from the flower garden, the above-ground parts of hollyhock, all fallen rose leaves, the entire aster plant, including the roots, and the old tops of phlox. Among the diseases which this burning will help to control are potato early blight and wilt, tomato leaf spot, cucumber wilt, beet leaf spot, bean anthracnose, asparagus rust, early and late blight of celery, hollyhock rust, rose leaf spot and phlox mildew.

Plants which may be dug into the garden soil with comparative safety include: Immature weeds, the refuse of salsify, spinach, parsnip, onion, horseradish, lettuce, turnip, cauliflower, cabbage and carrot. If additional vegetable material is desired, and a good supply of barnyard manure is not available, the leaves of shade or other trees make a good substitute. While these leaves often carry diseases, none are likely to affect garden plants and they may be used safely as a source of humus.

PACKAGED POTATOES REQUIRE LABELS

THE harvest of the early Pennsylvania potato crop is nearly completed in southern counties, Secretary John H. Light announced today.

Digging the main potato crop will begin shortly and continue through the fall season in northern counties, the Secretary states. Growing conditions have not been very favorable for the production of a large crop in the state this season, and the total yield will only be moderate. Quality of the crop is reported generally to be better than average, however.

In commenting on the marketing of the crop, the Secretary advises growers and shippers of Pennsylvania potatoes that the Potato Marketing Law is now being enforced by State Agents. All potatoes sold in closed packages must be marked with the proper grade designation or with the term "Unclassified", according to the provisions of the Act.

SAFEGUARD ANIMALS AGAINST DISEASES

BARRIERS against communicable animal diseases usually are inexpensive, while tolerance of these diseases constitutes a regular expense, which either reduces profits of herds and flocks or completely wipes out profits, or may be the cause of losses and bankruptcy, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture.

Any practice which prevents the cause of a disease from contact with susceptible animals is a barrier against the disease. Disease prevention is the "key" to successful promotion and profitable maintenance of herds and flocks. Maximum efficiency in herds and flocks is obtained only after these herds and flocks are free from all diseases. In infected herds or flocks, the diseases prevalent should be eliminated and necessary barriers should be constructed against reinfection. With most diseases, animals become infected by contact with animals already infected, and to remove infected animals furnishes the barrier of separation from contact with the cause of the disease.

In order to prevent the introduction of diseases through the addition of animals, isolation facilities should be provided on all premises where livestock or poultry are maintained. All animals in the process of addition, besides complying with the requirements of State regulations, should be held in isolation until all necessary tests have been applied to exclude the possibility of infection with communicable diseases.

POULTRY NOTES

MORE than 3,000,000 chickens have been individually inspected by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture since the Standardization Program was inaugurated in 1924. There has been a steady increase each year from the three thousand birds the first year, to nearly 360,000 in 1939. The totals to date have been selected on more than 1,000 different farms in 75% of the 67 counties in the state.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS
TEN HIGH PENS TO SEPT. 7, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	3589.20	3459
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	3415.40	3312
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	3	3322.95	3184
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	4	3299.85	3116
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	5	3239.60	3184
Rinker Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	3222.90	3064
J. A. Hanson	Oregon	SCWL	7	3146.50	3007
Creighton Brothers	Indiana	SCWL	8	3140.30	3017
Missouri Valley Hatchery	Missouri	SCWL	9	3125.30	3059
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	10	3113.55	2969

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO SEPT. 7, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds	47.87	166.68	164.19	24.3
1939, all 13 birds	55.90	198.30	191.74	24.7
1940, all 13 birds	57.05	201.16	195.67	24.5

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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PREPARE BEES FOR WINTER

AN EXAMINATION should be made of all bee colonies before packing or protecting them for the cold winter months, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. It is too late to treat colonies affected with disease, or to transfer bees in illegal hives to modern hives. Any diseased colonies shoud be destroyed by burning all combs and sterilizing hive bodies, tops and bottoms. Box or crossed comb hives, which are illegal, should be broken apart and examined for disease and if present, destroy hive, bees and combs. If no disease is present, the honey can be saved and used. Weak colonies should be united so as to form a cluster large enough to maintain proper heat throughout the winter.

Information relative to inspection and control of bee diseases, which is the chief concern of the Inspection Service, should be referred to the Bureau of Plant Industry, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

EVERGREENS CAN BE PLANTED NOW

NURSERY inspectors of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture report the presence of many fine specimens of evergreen shrubs and trees in our Pennsylvania Nurseries, which they have inspected this year. Department Inspectors report that these plants show the results of much care on the part of the nurserymen in spraying, pruning and cultivating. They are all ready for digging and planting. September and October are favorite months for the planting of evergreens. Probably no single item so beautifies a homestead as the planting of a few evergreens. A few of our favorite evergreens are hemlock, white pine, spruces, Scotch pine, mugho pine, balsam fir, arborvitae, Austrian pine, and several varieties of cedars (Juniper). Some of the cedars have the disadvantage of serving as an intermediate host for a serious apple disease (the cedar apple rust), and, for this reason, should not be planted within one mile of apple orchards.

Purchasing of nursery stock from local nurserymen is often advisable for several reasons. Your local nurseryman will know how evergreens should be planted, and there is a great advantage in planting as soon as possible after they have been dug from the nursery row. Make a study of your buildings and grounds and plant such varieties as will best fit in with your other plants. Try to think just how the plantings will look in a few years and do not over-plant.

SOW LAWN SEED IN THE FALL

FALL seeding of lawns is very popular with many home owners, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. Because this is such a favorable season, it bears repeating, even if it only serves as a reminder for those that are aware of this fact.

Nature herself does her seeding at this time. The weather is usually ideal for the quick germination of seed. The soil temperature is more favorable, and there is usually adequate rainfall. This is also a dormant time for weeds, especially crabgrass, which can be choked out by cultural methods.

Probably the most successful month to sow lawn seed is September. Your County Agricultural Extension Agent can give detailed instructions as to the best methods to follow as well as the proper seeding mixtures for your Community.

Last but not least, it is very important that you buy good clean seed, and therefore, it is important that you read the analysis tags on seed packages before buying. Quite frequently, seed samples are sent to, or collected by, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture that contain a high amount of inert matter, as well as many weed seeds.

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CONTROL YOUR DOGS WHILE TRAINING

ON AUGUST 20th, the dog training season opened in Pennsylvania, making it lawful to train dogs on all kinds of small game from sunrise to 9:00 o'clock P. M., E. S. T. Dogs may be trained on Sunday on all State owned lands, but permission must be obtained from land owners when Sunday training is desired on privately owned lands. Training season extends to March 30, 1941.

The Dog Law Division of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture in calling attention to the training season, wishes to remind the Sportsmen and all dog owners having dogs that it is necessary to keep dogs under control while training, and it is also necessary to do this at all times. Special attention should be given young bird dogs because in their eagerness to find birds, they cannot determine the difference between poultry and game birds.

The Department advises that dog owners are liable for payment where dogs have caused damage to livestock and poultry. Therefore cooperation in controlling dogs will help decrease the number of claims caused by dogs each year and at the same time protect the owner from violating the Dog Law. The Department of Agriculture paid to claimants, covering dog damages this year up to and including the 31st of July, 660 damage claims amounting to $9,054. The Dog Law gives protection to farmers and dog owners, and the law affords a way whereby compensation can be received for loss sustained.

PENNA. FRUIT MAKES HIGH QUALITY PACKS

PENNSYLVANIA, New York, Maryland and Virginia apples have been the chief source of supply in the United States for canned apple sauce, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. This has been due primarily to the large quantity of apples of the tart and spicy varieties, that are particularly desirable for sauce-making grown in this area.

THOROUGH COOKING OF PORK IMPORTANT

RECENT investigations have shown the incidence of Trichinosis in humans to be much higher than was formerly suspected, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture.

Evidence based on the post-mortem examination of tissue taken from large numbers of human subjects has shown that in some areas, as many as 25% of the subjects examined were infested in some degree with Trichinae.

Very few of these subjects were known to have suffered from Trichinosis during life. The infestation apparently passed unnoticed or its true nature was not recognized.

Trichinae in pork can be devitalized by thorough cooking or by approved types of processing. No pork or pork product should be eaten which has not been so treated.

LIVE STOCK KILLED BY POISONOUS PLANTS

THE attention of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has again been called to the menace of poisonous plants through a recent request to examine a pasture in Berks County. Nine steers had died while grazing in this area up to the time the examination was made by the Department's representatives.

The pasture in question was an abandoned farm, and there were found numerous types of plant growth such as are commonly seen along neglected fence rows, streams, in woodlands and fields that have not been in cultivation for several years. In such a large area, and under these conditions, poisonous plants can easily get a foothold.

The dangerous plants, observed on this tract of land, were Indian hemp, black locust, pokeweed, cow parsnip, and wild black cherry, all of which, under certain conditions, may be fatal to live stock if eaten in appreciable quantities. In the case in question, the wild black cherry was the most likely cause of the trouble, as numerous small trees had been broken down by the cattle while grazing, and there were also signs that considerable of the foliage and even the bark had been eaten. Danger from eating poisonous plants is always increased if they have previously been trampled down and become wilted, since in the wilting process, the content of active poison is always increased.

Secretary Light states that Pennsylvania Canners have been aggressive in developing the canning industry of our State, and today are using the most scientific methods to produce a high standard pack of fruits and vegetables from the high quality farm products being produced by our Pennsylvania farmers. Farmers and Canners are both benefiting by the plan of purchase on a uniform grade basis, supervised by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS
TEN HIGH PENS TO SEPT. 14, 1940

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	3642.80	3509
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	3476.40	3369
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	3	3385.15	3241
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	4	3366.25	3177
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	5	3302.75	3243
Rinker Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	3285.35	3122
J. A. Hanson	Oregon	SCWL	7	3207.35	3063
Creighton Brothers	Indiana	SCWL	8	3198.10	3070
Missouri Valley Hatcheries	Missouri	SCWL	9	3172.95	3103
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	10	3160.00	3012

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO SEPT. 14, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds	47.49	168.84	166.21	24.3
1939, all 13 birds	55.54	201.09	194.38	24.7
1940, all 13 birds	56.64	203.94	198.26	24.5

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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MANY INSECTS COME FROM ABROAD

MANY of our most destructive and obnoxious insect pests originally entered the United States and Pennsylvania from foreign countries, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. Certain ones of these alien enemies have had wide publicity and we read in our daily papers of their devastating inroads. Others have been with us so long we believe them to be native Americans, but all of them are taking their toll of our foods and food stores, our crops and even our homes.

The Hessian fly is an outstanding example of a pest that has persisted over a period of many years. This tiny two-winged fly, destructive to our wheat crops, was brought from Europe during our Revolutionary War.

The gypsy moth, introduced into the United States in 1869, has become established in a number of the eastern states. The infested area in Pennsylvania comprises a large portion of Luzerne and Lackawanna counties, with a few adjoining townships in other counties. This moth was first brought from France by a scientist who had the mistaken idea that he could cross these insects with the silkworm of commerce. Some of the caterpillars escaped and formed the nucleus of the great New England infestation.

The brown tail moth was first found in the United States at Summerville, Massachusetts in 1897, and was undoubtedly introduced in imported nursery stock.

Among the past introductions of insect pests that are outstanding in their destructive propensities, we have the San Jose scale, a native of China. This scale came in by the way of San Jose, California, hence the name. The codling moth, an old European insect that still worries our apple growers, is a current topic of discussion among horticulturists and orchardists. Also, the cotton boll weevil of the cotton plant came to us from Mexico. Asparagus beetles, the imported cabbage worm, elm leaf beetles, European pine shoot moth, and the leopard moth, all introductions from Europe, have added considerably to the increase in our budgets.

The European corn borer, a later importation, was probably brought into this country in shipments of broom corn. Its first appearance was noted in 1917 in the vicinity of Boston, and it has since spread over extensive areas.

Japanese beetles came to us a short time before 1916. The ancestors of our present Japanese beetle infestation entered the country as stowaways among the dirt and roots of ornamental plants imported from Japan. Many parts of Pennsylvania are aware of their presence or have suffered losses due to them.

Another outstanding pest that came over from Japan is the oriental fruit moth. It arrived about 1913 and is now known to occur in many states. In Pennsylvania, the oriental fruit moth is a serious enemy of peaches, quinces, and, to a less extent, of other fruits.

The Mexican bean beetle is within our states and is very destructive to the bean crop. There are many insects which might be mentioned as having been imported into the United States from foreign countries. Federal, as well as state agencies are constantly on guard, putting forth every effort to keep out such pests, as well as to control and eradicate those already established in our country.

NEW BULLETINS

THE Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has just recently published a Feeding Stuffs Report and a Fertilizer Report, which are available to those persons desiring this information. The 1940 Seed Analysis Report will also be available in December, which will immediately be followed in January or February with the published list of Licensed Nurserymen in the State.

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LARGEST BEE INSPECTION PROGRAM COMPLETED

THE Department of Agriculture has just completed the most extensive apiary inspection program ever undertaken in Pennsylvania, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. A block of eighteen western counties, comprising approximately one-third of all apiaries in the State, was covered this season in an effort to bring bee diseases in this area under control. The apiaries of 8,912 beekeepers, comprising 52,274 colonies, were carefully examined by inspectors. Of these, 4,632 colonies in 1,376 apiaries were found to be affected by American Foulbrood. With the cooperation and assistance of the beekeeper, these diseased colonies were either treated or destroyed. A total of 3,915 of these were definitely eliminated from the apiaries.

A comparable program of inspection was completed in 1932, at which time 8,066 colonies were found to be in illegal hives, approximately 50% of which were boxes. During the current season, with a slightly larger number of apiaries involved, only 3,445 illegal colonies were found, with only 25% in box hives.

Cooperation between the beekeeper and inspector was the rule during the past season. As compared to 237 serious violations for the period 1929-1931, during the past three years, it has been necessary to use compulsory methods in only six cases.

To the beekeeper, protection against and reduction of apiary diseases in a given community, means a reduction in the cost of operation. In addition, this work insures a more abundant bee population throughout the State, which is an important factor in the pollination and production of fruit and various other farm crops.

The plan of systematic large area clean-up was started this year after careful study and organization of the work by the Department in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Beekeepers' Association.

PENNA. TOMATO SEED ENTERS WORLD TRADE

Pennsylvania-grown certified tomato seed of the 1940 crop is now being exported to foreign countries. The Department of Agriculture just recently issued certificates, covering freedom from certain diseases, of large shipments that were being forwarded to South Africa and Cuba. There has been an increase in the number of requests for certificates covering such shipments during the past year, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture.

Last year, the Department certified over 8.5 tons of tomato seed. Inspections have been made this year for seed purposes covering 215.5 acres, which is slightly less than the acreage inspected in 1939. Fields are examined at least twice during the growing season for diseases that are transmitted through the seed, for varietal purity, and for uniformity of both internal and external fruit structure.

The principal varieties inspected this year were Rutgers, Marglobe, Grothens Red Globe and Pritchard. Other varieties entered for certification include the Bonny Best and Pink Globe.

Varieties and strains that do not meet the requirements of the certification standards are rejected by the inspectors and discarded by the seed producers. By eliminating these, and through careful selection work, our seedsmen have been able to develop strains of tomatoes that are known wherever tomatoes are grown for their high seed qualities.

LEAD AND ARSENIC TOLERANCE CHANGED

FOR several weeks during the fall months of apple harvest, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture maintains a testing laboratory at Arendtsville, Adams County, which is centrally located in one of the large apple growing sections of the State. This laboratory makes tests for apple growers so that they can certify their crops as complying with food regulations governing the amounts of arsenic and lead on the fruit.

The Pennsylvania standards have been changed to correspond with Federal standards governing interstate shipments. The official standard adopted by the Department on August 31 is as follows: Lead, 0.05 grains per pound; Arsenic, 0.025 grains per pound (expressed as arsenic trioxide); and fluorine, 0.02 grains per pound.

The Department's Chemical Laboratory at Harrisburg handles many samples in addition to those tested at the special laboratory at Arendtsville.

Pennsylvania fruit growers have found this service very valuable to them, especially in making interstate and foreign shipments, and have cooperated with Department Agents in keeping Pennsylvania apples and pears well under the requirements of the regulations which govern these two fruits.

PENNSYLVANIA OFFICIAL EGG LAYING COUNTS
TEN HIGH PENS TO SEPT. 21, 1940

FINAL REPORT FOR CONTEST YEAR 1939-40

Owner	State	Breed	Rank	Points To Date	Eggs To Date
Norman W. Amidon	Connecticut	BPR	1	3694.60	3557
Thomas Mettler	New Jersey	NH	2	3526.75	3416
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	3	3447.55	3298
Joachim Breeding Farm	New Jersey	NH	4	3423.05	3229
Guy A. Leader	Pennsylvania	SCWL	5	3359.35	3296
Rinker Poultry Farm	Pennsylvania	SCWL	6	3344.40	3177
J. A. Hanson	Oregon	SCWL	7	3265.95	3117
Creighton Brothers	Indiana	SCWL	8	3257.00	3124
Missouri Valley Hatchery	Missouri	SCWL	9	3226.45	3152
Piho Brothers	Connecticut	SCWL	10	3205.30	3054

PRODUCTION SUMMARY TO SEPT. 21, 1938-1940

Year	Percent Production	Average Points Per Bird	Average Eggs Per Bird	Average Egg Wt. Oz. Per Doz.
1938, all 13 birds	47.03	170.66	167.91	24.3
1939, all 13 birds	55.14	203.71	196.86	24.7
1940, all 13 birds	56.24	206.67	200.79	24.5

NATIONAL DAIRY SHOW — HARRISBURG, PA. — OCT. 12 - 19, 1940

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

Entered as second-class Matter, June 23, 1909, at the Post Office at Harrisburg, Pa., under Act of Congress, June 6, 1900.

John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

Vol. 25 Harrisburg, October 10, 1940 No. 40

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DEPARTMENT TESTS CLOVER SEED FOR FARMERS

ONE of the most common but very important crops of the Pennsylvania farmer is red clover, which serves many purposes; it is used for pasturage and for hay, as well as for renewing the fertility of the soil, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture.

Red clover was known to be generally cultivated in the Netherlands about four hundred years ago, coming later to England. It was grown in Rhode Island as early as 1663, but the first definite reference to its use in Pennsylvania was in 1764, when a Pennsylvania farmer named J. St. John Creveceur, wrote this to a friend of his in England. "I have greatly enriched my upland fields; those which I intend to rest for a few years, I consistently sow with Red Clover, which is the greatest meliorator of our lands." The early settlers in the colonies were quick to appreciate the value of cultivating this crop.

In 1939, Pennsylvania farmers harvested 20,000 acres of red clover, which yielded 1.2 bushels of seed per acre; this amount being considerably less than that grown here in 1938. Although most of the seed sown on our Pennsylvania farms is of mid-western origin, it is surprising to find how much locally grown red clover seed is being used.

Each year prior to the spring sowing, the Seed Laboratory of the Department of Agriculture receives many samples of home-grown red clover from farmers throughout the State. These samples are analyzed for purity and tested for germination, so that the true seeding value of the crop may be determined. Secretary Light says that in order for us to know the planting value of the current Pennsylvania red clover seed crop, the first one hundred samples received in the Laboratory this spring were considered as representative of the entire State.

Upon examination, the color and general appearance of these seeds were good, and the tests showed the percentage of germination to be above average, except for two lots, which produced weak and broken sprouts, no doubt due to threshing injury.

Eleven percent of these samples exceeded the amount of weed seeds allowed for sale in Pennsylvania, because our law prohibits the selling of red clover for seeding purposes if it contains more than 3% weed seeds. Therefore, the farmer was notified that the quality of his seed was too poor to sow on his farm and could not legally be sold, unless it was recleaned. Twenty-six percent of these one hundred samples contained one or more percent of weed seeds, but in only two percent were noxious weeds, such as dodder, found.

The analyses of these samples reveal that the ten most common weeds found in our Pennsylvania red clover are buckhorn plantain, blackseed plantain, green bristlegrass (often called green foxtail), wild carrot, crabgrass, ragweed, docks, lambs-quarters, nightshade, slender paspalum, ladysthumb and sheep sorrel.

The seeds of other crops occurring in these red clover samples were timothy, alsike clover, sweet clover and white clover. The inert matter was mostly broken seeds and small particles of soil. It is very evident from the high percentage of foreign matter found in these that the farmers of Pennsylvania lack seed cleaning facilities. Time and effort spent in cleaning red clover seed is never lost, but results in increased yield of the crop whether the final product is hay or seed.

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BOTULISM OR LIMBERNECK IN POULTRY

BOTULISM in fowls is usually a very acute disease, and may appear very suddenly in a flock, with heavy losses, according to veterinarians in the Pennsylvania Bureau of Animal Industry. It is characterized by marked weakness and is commonly called limberneck because the affected birds usually lose control of the neck muscles and are unable to hold their heads erect.

The disease is caused by the poisonous products or toxins of a bacterial organism that thrives in decomposing animal and vegetable matter. The germs of botulism are widely distributed in nature and are responsible for many outbreaks of so-called food poisoning of man. Unlike most disease-producing organisms, the germs of botulism do not multiply in the body, but rapidly multiply in decaying carcasses of animals and spoiled vegetables, in which they produce a powerful poison or toxin.

The disease is produced only in the birds which eat materials containing the toxin. However, a very small amount of it is necessary to cause death, because this toxin is one of the most poisonous substances known, and minute amounts of it are highly fatal to poultry. Fly maggots found in the carcasses of dead animals often contain enough of the toxin to be fatal to birds eating them.

Botulism occurs most frequently in poultry flocks as a result of the birds feeding on decomposing carcasses of animals, such as dead chickens, hogs and rats. The disease may also be caused by fowls eating spoiled canned goods or decaying vegetation in stagnant water. Because warm rainy weather favors the processes of decomposition and toxin production, the disease is more prevalent during the summer and fall months.

All poultry may be affected by the disease. however, it is most frequently observed in chickens and ducks. It may also occur in wild birds.

The appearance of botulism or limberneck in a flock is usually very sudden and in characteristic outbreaks, large numbers of the flock are found affected shortly after the flock has appeared to be in a healthy condition. Many birds may die in a short period of time, and the living affected birds exhibit a marked weakness or extreme prostration.

The extent of the losses in outbreaks of this disease is dependent upon the number of birds eating fatal amounts of the toxin. Thus the mortality may vary from a few deaths to a catastrophe involving the entire flock.

Treatment of birds in advanced stages of the disease is of little value. If an outbreak of the disease is suspected, a veterinarian should be consulted, and steps taken immediately to remove all possible sources of the toxin from the flock. The injection of botulinus antitoxin is of some value in birds in the early stages of the disease.

CORN BORER ON INCREASE IN PENNA.

SURVEYS have been made by agents of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture during the past few weeks in three counties, which in past years have shown considerable infestation of the single brooded strain of European Corn Borer. The Department agents are continuing their surveys in other counties, according to John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture.

The three counties already surveyed are: Centre, Crawford, and Erie.

In Penns Valley in Centre County, corn borer infestation is quite general, and there has been considerable build-up there this year. Many fields showed an infestation of as many as fifty or more stalks out of each one hundred counted. As high as six worms were taken out of a single stalk in some fields in this area, and breaking of stalks is evident in many of these fields.

In Crawford County, the rate of infestation varies from very slight in the higher ground to very heavy in the lower ground. In the northwestern corner of this county, the infestation runs well over fifty stalks out of one hundred with borers. In a few fields, the infestation is much heavier than this, and considerable damage has resulted. The stalks are broken and the corn on the ear will undoubtedly be soft and difficult to dry out. In these fields where infestation is as much as fifty stalks out of one hundred, as many as six borers were taken from a single infested stalk.

In Erie County, the condition is much the same as in Crawford—that is, the infestation in the high ground is less than in the low ground. However, in the low ground, the infestation is higher than in Crawford County. Here the borers have caused a very serious loss in field corn, particularly in early planted fields. The highest number of borers to be taken from a single stalk was twenty-three.

In all three of these counties, it is quite certain that unless control practices are planned and carefully carried out by the farmers of the District, next year's crop will be almost certain to be badly damaged by this insect. The Department of Agriculture advises the cleaning up and destroying of all corn stalks, cobs and stubble by the first of next May. Corn stalks which are shredded and carried through the manure pile will be free from corn borer larvae. It is the stalks left standing in the field and the stalks which are left after cattle have fed upon the stover in the feed lot which are most important as carriers of this important corn insect through the winter season. Complete plowing under of all corn refuse to a depth of six inches is also an efficient control.

POISON IVY

THE Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture receives many inquiries regarding practical and effective methods of destroying poison ivy, says John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture. These inquiries would lead one to believe that this is one of the most annoying noxious plants with which the public has to contend. Cutting the plants at the ground, or digging them up by the roots, appears both unsatisfactory and dangerous to the person doing the work.

Recent reports from State Experiment Stations indicate that several commercial weed killers, applied as a spray on the ivy foliage, have proven effective and safe, even when trees and other large plants are growing near by. Certain precautions, however, are necessary to protect other plants.

The time for most satisfactory use of these materials may be past for this season, but those who have poison ivy growing on their premises would do well to keep it in mind for next spring or early summer. County Agricultural Agents can furnish information regarding details of procedure for eradication or control of this poisonous plant.

The prevention of botulism, by hygienic and sanitary measures, is the most important factor in its control.

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BEGIN HARVESTING PENNA. CELERY CROP ADOPT INSPECTION

GREAT strides are being made toward placing Pennsylvania among the leading celery producing states in this country. The harvesting season began in the Eastern section of the State, which is the heaviest producing of the various areas in which celery is a specialty in vegetable farming. The other important sections are Tioga, Lycoming, and some of the central counties, which brings the total for the State to about 930 acres.

In the Eastern section of Bucks and Philadelphia counties, 275 acres are planted to celery and according to reports compiled by Secretary John H. Light, of the State Department of Agriculture, it is estimated that between 60,000 and 75,000 crates, each containing from 48 to 120 stalks, will be marketed this year from that area. This represents a slight increase over 1939.

Unlimited effort on the part of the grower is constantly being made to improve the Pennsylvania product, and in the Bucks-Philadelphia County section, about 25 growers have formed an association and are marketing their celery under a brand name. To insure the consumer of the highest quality, those producers this year have arranged for Federal-State inspection of their product as it is being packed for market, each shipment bearing a government certificate. It is all graded according to the size of the stalk and the quality. The inspection is done under the direction of the State Department of Agriculture.

After being cut in the fields, the celery is taken to the packing houses, which are on the individual farms, where it is washed and sorted, then placed in crates and shipped to the Eastern markets by motor trucks during the night of the day on which it was harvested.

The harvesting season in that section will continue in full swing until about the last week in November. The season has been good for celery, according to reports, particularly where irrigation was used. Although other vegetable crops suffered from the cool weather and heavy rainfalls, these factors are said to have been favorable for celery production.

TOMATO SEASON ENDS CROP BELOW NORMAL

THE Pennsylvania tomato harvesting season was brought to a close during the week of October 7, according to reports received by Secretary John H. Light, of the State Department of Agriculture. The harvesting decreased rapidly during the last week of harvesting.

Although the season was listed as a poor one for tomato production and proper ripening, encouraging reports have been received by Secretary Light from various sections of the State. Due to the recent lower temperatures and rain, a considerable amount of the crop was left in the fields, since it was too late for proper ripening.

In spite of the unfavorable conditions, however, reports show an average production of from seven to nine tons per acre in several areas of the Eastern section of the State. In those areas, a good quality also prevailed. Shipments to canneries during the height of the season were high, but this period was not of as long duration as in more favorable weather years. Shipments from one central shipping point in Lancaster County to one cannery alone reached 60 railroad cars a day during one period.

Practically the entire crop of Pennsylvania tomatoes shipped to canneries were under Federal-State inspection, directed by the Department of Agriculture.

TESTING FOR TB

TESTING of cattle for tuberculosis is now being carried on in Blair, Forest, McKean and Susquehanna counties, according to Secretary John H. Light, of the State Department of Agriculture. No official reports of the results of the tests in those sections can be compiled until the tests are completed.

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17th COUNTY LISTED IN ACCREDITED AREA IN BANG'S TEST

SECRETARY John H. Light of the State Department of Agriculture has announced that during the month of September, a total of 80,358 cattle were tested for Bang's disease in this State under the individual and area plans. Of that total, 1,587 were disclosed as being subject to the disease. According to the report, 5,214 herds containing 105,231 cattle have qualified as Bang's Disease Certified Herds.

Susquehanna County, one of the largest dairy cattle sections in this State, has qualified as a Bang's Disease Free Modified Accredited Area, making the seventeenth county in this State to attain that rating. The following figures show the progress made in that county: In 1938, the initial test disclosed 25 percent herd infection, with a cattle infection of 4.2 percent; in 1939, the first annual test showed 8.1 herd infection with 1.5 percent of the cattle infected; and in 1940, the second annual test, the herd infection was brought to 4.5 percent and the cattle infection down to .8 percent.

Up to this time, 431 townships in the State, containing approximately 378,809 cattle, have been completely tested on the area plan.

SPINACH IMPORTANT CROP IN PENNA.

SPINACH is an important crop in the vegetable growing area of Pennsylvania, which is centered largely in the Eastern part of the State. On one farm alone, it is estimated that the crop this year will amount to 150,000 bushels. This compares with 135,000 bushels in 1939. After the spinach is harvested, it is taken to the packing houses on the large vegetable farms, where it is washed, sorted and packed with ice in baskets and shipped to market the same day by motor trucks.

The harvest season for spinach begins early in the season, and continues until cold weather. Seed is planted in the Fall, and the small plants withstand the winter weather and come into production in early Spring. Several plantings, according to weather conditions, are made during the Summer months.

PA. RANKS FOURTH IN GRAPE PRODUCTION

THE peak in the harvesting of Pennsylvania's grape crop, which is the fourth largest of any State in this country, will be reached about the middle of this month, Secretary John H. Light, of the Department of Agriculture, announced today.

The crop is estimated at 23,900 tons, as compared with 23,000 tons last year. Instead of being consumed as fresh fruit, the bulk of the crop will be sold to juice processing plants. Most of the crop is being marketed under State inspection, being graded according to the Federal-State inspection service.

POTATO INSPECTIONS SET NEW HIGH MARK 28 COUNTIES LISTED

MORE potatoes have been inspected for certification this year than in any previous year since this work was started more than 20 years ago, according to Secretary John H. Light, of the State Department of Agriculture. A total of 139 growers in 28 counties of this State made application this year for the inspection and certification of 1,875 acres, as compared with 92 potato growers who applied for inspection of 1,208 acres in 16 counties in 1939.

According to the records, the demand for Pennsylvania certified seed potatoes is increasing each year, and in recent years there was not sufficient production to meet the demand. With considerable moisture and lower temperatures prevailing during the past growing season, it is stated that identification of potato diseases was made with less difficulty than is the case in dry warm seasons.

Bacterial Ring-rot, said to be a comparatively new potato disease in Pennsylvania, is reported to be causing considerable damage to the commercial crop. The disease was first found in this State in 1937, when only a few infected fields were found. Special precautions are being taken to keep it out of the certified seed crop. Where the virus diseases in potatoes prevail, for the control of which the inspection service was primarily begun, a reduction of as high as 75 percent of a normal crop will result, and the losses from the ring-rot will range to 65 percent.

According to the report, the last field inspection for certification has been completed, and 1,015 acres have been certified out of the 1,875 acres entered for inspection. After the seed crop has been dug, another inspection will be made.

NURSERY INSPECTION HAS BEEN COMPLETED

A TOTAL of 987 nurseries in this State were certified for the year ending October 1, 1941, as the result of inspections which were completed September 30, according to the report issued by Secretary John H. Light of the State Department of Agriculture. The certification did not include nursery dealers and collectors of native nursery stock.

According to the report, the inspection resulted in imposing a minimum of penalties and most of the nurseries examined were said to be in good condition. Damage by insects and plant diseases were reported to be less prevalent than is usually the case. The heavy rainfalls in the Spring, and continued good growing weather throughout the season, were seen as an asset to the production and sale of nursery stock. These conditions, however, added to the expense of maintaining nurseries due to the greater growth of weeds. Because of the heavy growth of weeds in a few nurseries, which prevented the inspection of the nursery stock, it was necessary to refuse immediate certification.

It is noted in the report that in 1901, when the nursery inspection service was begun by the Department of Agriculture, there were only 121 nurseries in this State.

START MOVING APPLES

PENNSYLVANIA apple shippers and growers report heavy shipments of apples during the early part of October, considering the short crop produced in the State this year. The fruit of large size is being shipped into storage in the larger market centers in Pennsylvania and other states, mostly South and West, while the smaller sizes of varieties, formerly exported, are being purchased by the Federal Surplus Marketing Administration for distribution.

About 40 apple growers of the Berks-Lehigh county district have formed an association for the cooperative canning of apple juice, using apples which do not meet first grade inspection requirements, Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture has announced. The plant is located in Boyertown.

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TB TESTS SHOWING FEW PENNA. CATTLE SUBJECT TO DISEASE

THAT tuberculosis infection in cattle in this State has been reduced to a minimum, is indicated by a report just released by Secretary John H. Light, of the Department of Agriculture, in which it is shown that only 63 cattle were infected out of a total of 13,871, representing 1,623 herds tested during the month of September. Testing of cattle for the infection is carried on continuously under the supervision of the Bureau of Animal Industry, of the Agricultural Department. Approximately one-third of the number of the counties are tested each year. Under this plan, all the cattle in the State undergo the test every three years. Cattle in Wyoming, Sullivan, Snyder and Forest counties were recently reaccredited for three years. In Forest County a total of 1,472 cattle were tested, and not a single cow was shown to have any infection. Tests are now being made in McKean, Beaver, Blair, Susquehanna and Union counties.

The progress made in the effort to eradicate cattle tuberculosis is seen in a tabulation of figures given in the report covering the past four years. In 1935, a total of 215,617 cattle were tested on the Individual Accredited Herd plan, and 4,024 of them were infected. In 1939, a total of 175,192 cattle were tested under that plan, and 971 of that number reacted, showing a decrease of 76 percent in the five-year period.

In 1935, the test was made on 440,277 cattle on the Modified Accredited Area Plan, and 11,055 of the total reacted while in 1936 a total of 594,387 cattle were given the test under that plan and only 3,480 were shown to be subject to the disease.

Under the same plan, a total of 454,074 cattle were tested in 1939, and the number of reactors dropped to 1,685, showing a decrease of approximately 90 percent from the 1935 figure.

NINE MILLION BUSHEL APPLE CROP NOW BEING HARVESTED IN PENNA.

IT is estimated that the Pennsylvania apple crop, which is now being harvested, will show a yield of nine million bushels, according to reports made to Secretary John H. Light, of the State Department of Agriculture. Although this figure shows a decrease of about two million bushels below the yield of 1939, it still places Pennsylvania fourth on the list of apple-producing states of this country, being surpassed by Washington, New York, and Virginia.

Twenty-five State licensed inspectors are engaged in the supervision of the packing and canning of the crop, according to the Bureau of Markets of the Department of Agriculture. The men are trained, licensed and supervised by the Agricultural Department, but their salaries are paid from fees collected from the growers. They are stationed at principal fruit packing houses in Adams, Franklin and Cumberland counties, and in several other centers, including Berks, Lebanon and Lancaster counties.

In addition to the inspections of fresh fruit for market, inspections are also made of practically all apples sold to canneries in the State. Apples are graded and sold according to quality.

Word has frequently been received by the Department that Pennsylvania apples, both fresh and canned, are in particular demand in the principal markets because of their high quality, which results from the continued use of the standardization program promoted by the Department of Agriculture.

COMING EVENTS AT FARM SHOW BUILDING

November 8—Midget Auto Races.

November 16—Dog Show, Sponsored by Harrisburg Kennel Club.

Oct. 30-31, Nov. 1-2—Standard Bred Harness Horse Sale.

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EXHIBITORS PLANNING SPACE AT FARM SHOW

FULLY appreciative of the tremendous and widespread interest in the Pennsylvania State Farm Show, which has won world-wide fame, commercial exhibitors are already making their plans for participation in the annual event which will be held January 20 to 24, 1941, in the celebrated Farm Show Building. Reports being received by Secretary John H. Light, of the Department of Agriculture, indicate even at this early date that the serious international and domestic problems are not having any effect upon interest in agriculture, the State's largest industry—the tremendous activities of which are brought definitely before the public through the great Farm Show.

Those directing the exhibit are already busily engaged in making plans for every one of the many phases of the exhibit to assure its complete success. Floor plans for commercial exhibitors and agreements for exhibition space are available by addressing the Pennsylvania Farm Show, Harrisburg.

The Show Commission has set December 5 as the closing date for livestock entries and December 6 as the last date for entering poultry exhibits.

CEDAR APPLE RUST IN PENNA. ORCHARDS

REPORTS are being received by the Bureau of Plant Industry of the State Department of Agriculture of infections of cedar apple rust throughout the southeastern counties of Pennsylvania. After the infection becomes apparent, the apple leaves show a dark brown area, which is later surrounded by a larger orange-yellow margin. These orange-yellow areas may also develop near the calyx of the fruit.

Several orchards surveyed this Fall by Department inspectors contained some trees that were almost completely defoliated by the disease. Loss of foliage results in a marked reduction in the size of the fruit.

During early Fall, the fungus migrates from the apple to the cedar, where infection of the leaves takes place. During the following Summer, small glossy brown galls are developed on the cedar. It is from these galls—the well known "cedar apple"—that the fungus spreads to the apple during the following Spring months.

During seasons when Spring rains are frequent, as they were last season, infection to nearby apple trees becomes severe. Moist weather favors the spread of the disease from the cedar to the apple. Under favorable conditions, the fungus may spread from the cedar to the apple for a distance of three miles, but ordinarily the zone of infection does not extend beyond one mile.

Positive control of the disease on apples under normal conditions may be secured by destroying all cedar trees within a mile of any given apple trees. Spraying has not been found satisfactory as a control measure.

DISCUSS PLANS FOR PENNA. AGRICULTURE IN DEFENSE PROGRAM

IN the discussions at the recent meeting of the Pennsylvania Advisory Agricultural Defense Council, organized for the purpose of devising plans under which agriculture could be placed in a position to perform its necessary functions in the event of an emergency, the labor problem played one of the leading roles. The contention was advanced that with the great increase in mechanized farming, it is becoming more imperative that farm labor be a skilled type of labor and not that which is looked upon as the "left-over" from industry. Need for greater efficiency on the farms was stressed, and this will be possible, it was contended, only as skilled labor becomes more prevalent. It is maintained also that if the full advantage of mechanization is to be had, the type of labor which has always been looked upon as the regular "farm hand" must be converted into a more specialized group. It was reported, however, that at the present time, there are no indications that conscription for military service will have any serious effect upon farm labor.

In connection with labor problems, suggestions were advanced looking to the continued and further development of the cooperative basis of farm operation, particularly in the use of equipment. The plan followed by potato growers in Tioga County was pointed to as an instance of the success of this method, under which farmers have the advantages of modern types of machinery because of cooperative use, who would not be warranted individually to purchase such equipment because of the size of the farms.

The educational phase was stressed as a vital factor in any defense measure, but it was insisted that this must be placed upon a permanent and continued basis and not looked upon purely as an emergency undertaking. In this connection, it was contended that if democracy is to be preserved, it is necessary that the people be taught to support it in its various aspects, and that as the result of that teaching, the country and its system of government will be more strongly defended at all times.

In discussions of necessary increased production in cases of emergency, it was pointed out that much equipment on farms now lying idle a great part of each year could be used for this purpose, an example cited being the brooding houses on poultry farms. In that case it was suggested that poultry could be raised for market through the use of that seasonally used equipment which would bring greatly increased production. The possibility of the use of canning factories which are idle between canning seasons for preparing poultry for market was also suggested.

Transportation of farm products was seen as an important phase, requiring much study under any defense program, and in this connection the idea was advanced that a survey be made of all highways and thoroughfares, with the view of being able to route products of this nature to the best advantage without interfering with any military movements over the main arteries of travel.

Plans are under way for the establishment of County organizations, which will function through the central group, thereby having every section of the State fully organized under the different plans, which would be placed in operation to meet emergencies as they might arise.

After telling of the purposes of the establishment of the council by Governor Arthur H. James, Secretary John H. Light, who is president of the council, summed up the situation in these words: "Great food surpluses now on hand, and the ability of farmers to produce bountifully when occasion requires it, are a guarantee to provide needed food supplies. It is estimated that the farmers of America are able to produce food to support 250,000,000 people. The American farmers are patriotic and liberty-loving. They are noted for performance and will do their part in the preparedness program. We in Pennsylvania must and will do our part. Of this the Nation can be assured."

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REPORTS SHOW HEAVY PA. VEGETABLE YIELDS DURING 1940 SEASON

A REPORT of truck crop production in Pennsylvania for the 1940 season and comparisons of yields has just been released by Secretary John H. Light, of the State Department of Agriculture.

The asparagus acreage this year was 3,200 and it is indicated will remain at that figure for 1941. Preliminary production figures this year indicate a total yield of 352,000 crates as compared with 304,000 crates from 2,900 acres in 1939, showing an average acre yield of 110 twenty-four-pound crates as compared with 105 in 1939, and a 10-year average of 96 crates.

The cabbage yield this year is placed at 28,900 tons from 3,400 acres, as compared with 22,400 tons from 3,200 acres in 1939, giving an average acreage yield of eight and one half tons as compared with seven tons last year and a 10-year average production of 7.8 tons. No estimate has yet been made of the acreage which will be planted next year.

A considerable increase in the carrot crop is reported for this year. Preliminary figures place the total production of 240,000 bushels from 650 acres, as compared with 228,000 bushels from 600 acres last year. The average acreage yield shows a slight decrease, the figures for this year being reported as 370 bushels as compared with 380 bushels in 1939. The 10-year average is 418 bushels, and the 10-year average of acreage planted was 400 acres.

This year's celery crop is placed at 251,000 crates from 930 acres or an average yield per acre of 270 ninety-pound crates, as compared with 248,000 crates from 900 acres or an acreage average of 275 crates in 1939. The 10-year average of acres planted is 1,150, with an average acre yield of 250 crates or a total average production of 286,000 crates.

The lettuce crop in this State this year is placed at 51,000 crates from 330 acres, or an average acre yield of 155 crates as compared with 39,000 crates from 300 acres, or an average acre yield of 130 crates in 1939. The 10-year average is 42,000 crates from 270 acres with an average acre production of 158 crates.

Among the eight states which produce late spinach, Pennsylvania is in first place with a total production indicated at 646,000 bushels from 1,900 acres, or an average acre yield of 340 bushels. This compares with a total production of 700,000 bushels from 2,000 acres in 1939, or an average acre yield of 350 bushels. The 10-year average total production is 635,000 bushels from an average of 1,350 acres, or an average yield per acre of 292 bushels.

Pennsylvania holds second place among the nine states in the production of second early spinach, with the yield this year placed at 510,000 bushels from 1,700 acres, or an average acreage yield of 300 bushels. Last year the total production was 480,000 bushels from 1,500 acres or an average acre yield of 320 bushels. The 10-year average total production was 321,000 crates from an average of 1,070 acres or an average acre yield of 314 bushels.

INCREASE REPORTED IN MILK PRODUCTION

ACCORDING to reports received by the State Department of Agriculture, milk production in Pennsylvania during September was considerably above the average for that season of the year. The average daily cow production of the herds upon which reports were received was 17.5 pounds of milk on October 1, which is said to be the highest figure on that date for the past 10 years.

This situation is attributed to the unusually good condition of pastures at this time of year—Fall growth having been excellent, according to the report, as the result of open weather conditions and rains. The figures show that 59 percent of the feed for dairy cattle was obtained from pastures during the month, which compares with 46.5 percent in September 1939.

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VAST FARM BUILDING NOW BEING PREPARED FOR 1941 EXHIBIT

THE stupendous job of preparing for the Pennsylvania Farm Show, which will be held from January 20 to 24, has been entered into with full force with the determination to make the event top of the list of the past 24 annual exhibits held in this State. When it is realized that the Farm Show building covers 14 acres of space, every inch of which must be arranged to be utilized to the best advantage, some idea might be had of the amount of work and detail which is entailed. With that area under roof and devoted to an exposition of everything dealing with agriculture, it can readily be seen that the show offers the last word in interest and provides untold educational value to everyone.

At the last Show, more than 2,500 exhibitors had displays relating to every phase of farm operation and procedure, and preparations are now under way to provide for an extension of that vast enterprise over the activities of 1940.

136 MILLION EGGS PA. SEPT. PRODUCTION

EGG production in Pennsylvania during September showed a marked increase over that of the same month last year, according to reports made to Secretary John H. Light, of the State Department of Agriculture. During that month, the production is placed at 136 million eggs as compared with 127 millions a year ago. However, the total production in this State for the nine months from January 1 shows a decrease of about three percent below that of the same period of 1939.

According to the reports, there are more layers on farms and the rate of laying is considerably above average figures. It is further reported, however, that the number of pullets not yet of laying age on October 1, was lower than the 1939 figure, which leads to the suggestion that unless the laying rate continues above that of last year, a smaller egg production can be expected during the next three months.

The number of layers in this State in September is placed at more than 12 and one half million as compared with 12 million 68 thousand in the same month last year. The monthly number of eggs per layer is given as 10.8 as compared with 10.5 in 1939.

Farm Labor Supply Reported 89 Percent of Demand in Pa.

According to reports compiled October 1, the average prevailing farm wage in Pennsylvania, without board, was $43 a month, and with board, the average wage was $28.25 a month. The daily rate with board is shown to have been $1.85 and without board, $2.35. It was indicated that the supply of farm labor was 80 percent of normal, that the demand was 90 percent of normal, and that the supply was 89 percent of the demand.

ADVISE GREATER CARE OF BEES IN WINTER REPORT HEAVY LOSS

OBSERVATIONS made during the inspection of almost 9,000 apiaries by the Department of Agriculture during the past season have caused the inspection bureau to suggest that beekeepers give more attention to protection and care of their bees during the Winter months. The mortality of bees last winter was in many cases reported to be entirely too high for profitable beekeeping.

Before packing bees for the cold weather, it is suggested that all colonies be inspected and any found to be diseased should be destroyed by burning. During warm days, when the bees are flying, an examination should be made at the entrances of the hives to detect any weak colonies. Frequent examination should be made of the entrances of these colonies and if it is found that they are being robbed by the stronger colonies, an examination should be made for disease, as this may be the cause of the weakened condition.

Diseased colonies are extremely dangerous during the inactive season. As there is no other food supply available at this time of year, bees are prone to rob throughout this period, and carry disease to healthy colonies. It is pointed out that burning is the only sure treatment for diseased colonies.

STUDIES SHOW HORSES SUCCUMB TO WORMS

ACCORDING to studies made by the Bureau of Animal Industry of the State Department of Agriculture, intestinal Strongyles or Palisade worms are extremely common in horses. Many grown animals, it is stated, can apparently be quite heavily infested without much effect being shown upon their health, but this is not the case with young animals. Symptoms are listed as loss of condition, digestive derangement, diarrhea, anemia, weakness and emaciation. Extreme cases, it it reported, may result in death.

In suggesting that every possible precaution be taken against the infestation of horses, Dr. C. P. Bishop, Director of the Bureau of Animal Industry, Department of Agriculture, stated that the animals acquire the infection from contaminated pastures, food or water. The infective agent is said to be in the form of minute worms or larvae, which hatch from great numbers of ova contained in manure from infested horses. To guard against the spread of the infestation, susceptible animals should be removed as far as possible from the infective agent. Stables should be cleaned regularly, pure water should be provided at all times, and stable litter should be removed daily and stacked, preferably in manure pits or boxes. Heat generated by this practice, it is pointed out, is destructive to parasite ova.

It is further stated that stable manure should not be spread on pastures used by horses and that they should not be continuously pastured on the same ground. It is suggested that whenever possible, pastures be alternated with other animals, such as cattle and sheep, which are not affected by the same parasites, that low pastures or wet areas which are breeding places for parasites be avoided, and that farms should not be overstocked.

Penna. Huckleberry Crop Exceeds 100 Carloads

It is estimated that more than 100 carloads of Pennsylvania huckleberries were shipped this season to the New York and Philadelphia markets, according to reports to the State Department of Agriculture. This compared with approximately 82 carloads last year. An estimated market value of $134,000 is placed on this year's crop. The berries come mostly from the Northeastern section of this State.

During the past 10 years, the acreage of tomatoes grown for canning in Pennsylvania has increased nearly five times, from 4,280 acres in 1930, to about 20,000 acres.

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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SEE NUT GROWING AS NEW BRANCH OF FARMING PURSUIT

IN the gradual increase in the establishment of nut groves in some of the Eastern counties of Pennsylvania is seen the possibility of the development of a new branch of agricultural pursuit in this State, according to Secretary John H. Light, of the Department of Agriculture. The first grove of black walnut trees was planted some years ago in Chester County and, since that time, each year has brought a gradual expansion with the planting of new sites.

The black walnut, frequently referred to as a profit-sharing king of tree crops and czar of the timber world, provides a two-fold value in that the nut crop provides an annual income while each year brings increased value to the orchard in the form of timber—this wood being rare and, therefore, commanding high prices.

Probably the largest grove in the Eastern section is that owned by Dr. Frank Baum at Yellowhouse, which comprises 1,098 trees, all of them yielding a crop. This year, the crop is estimated at 00 bushels of shelled walnuts. Much development has already been made in equipment for the preparation of the crop for market. The Baum orchard is equipped with a machine which hulls the nuts and also with a machine which, after cracking the shell, extracts the kernel. The nut meats are prepared in both package and bulk for market. Although heavy bearing, the trees are only from 2 to 15 years old.

The meat of the nut, however, is not the only source of income, as it is claimed that 24 new uses have been found for the ground shell, one of the most important of which is its manufacture into a container for insecticides. It is said that when pressed, the shells provide better grind stones than many minerals; that when added to plastics, such as are used in automobiles, mouldings are increased in strength; and that the wearing quality of rubber is greatly increased by the addition of the nut shells. Unground, the shells bring $12.50 a ton.

The Baum grove is planted on squares of 45 feet, but Dr. Baum suggests a distance of 63 feet to allow for proper expansion of the branches and development of the tree. The black walnut tree is said to be thrifty, long lived and, because of its being deep rooted, allows for plow crops in the grove.

ROUND WORM IS MOST COMMON HOG DISEASE

OF the various parasites found in hogs, the common round worm is outstanding, both on account of its large size and the amount of injury it is capable of inflicting, according to the Bureau of Animal Industry.

Fully grown worms may attain a length of 12 inches or more, with a diameter a little under a quarter of an inch, and are especially injurious to young pigs. It is stated that digestion is deranged and many die as a result of infestation, while many others are reduced to worthless pigs and are so weakened as to fall easy victims to secondary diseases.

Round worms multiply by a prolific production of eggs. Ground continuously occupied by infested hogs becomes heavily contaminated. Development of the egg requires a period of 10 days or more, depending upon the moisture and temperature of the ground. After development, the eggs are capable of infecting any susceptible hog which swallows them, to which the feeding habits of hogs readily lend their aid. Developed eggs retain their infective powers over many months in moist ground, but are much less resistant in dry soil exposed to sunlight.

Sanitary measures aimed at the prevention of infestation are pointed to as the best defense. The use of the same ground for successive groups of hogs should be avoided by changing the hog lot each year. Two or three years between each occupation should be allowed. Dry and well drained locations should be chosen.

It is advised that sows be farrowed in special pens capable of thorough cleansing between litters, and that they be moved to clean pasture as soon as possible.

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TESTING OF MILK IN FARM SHOW EXHIBIT CAREFULLY DONE

ONE of the many exhibits at the Pennsylvania Farm Show, the 25th of which will be held from January 20 to 24, 1941, in which is involved a mass of detail, is that of milk. There are five different classes divided into 10 divisions, and last year there were a total of 182 entries. Three of the classes are for raw milk, the first for milk from tuberculin and Bang's Disease tested cattle, the second for milk from tuberculin tested cattle (both classes confined to the producer of milk), and the third for milk from producers who retail their milk, whose herds are tested for both tuberculosis and Bang's Disease. Class four is for certified milk, and class five for pasteurized milk. The first three classes are divided into groups according to the number of cattle in the herd.

In each division, gold, silver and bronze medals are awarded as first, second and third prizes. There are also cash awards for those winning places below the third rating.

For the purpose of judging the entries of milk, it is put through the various necessary testing processes in the specially constructed and equipped laboratory in the Farm Show Building. The scoring involves bacteria test, flavor and odor, sediment, temperature, acidity and the bottle and cap.

In addition to the prizes offered by the Farm Show, various dairy and breeders' associations also give awards for different merit ratings.

SEPT. MEAT INSPECTION NEARS 3 MILLION LBS.

ACCORDING to the report made by the Meat Hygiene Division, 38,033 ante-mortem and post-mortem examinations of animals were made during the month of September, resulting in 105 carcasses being condemned. There were 546 establishments examined for sanitation, one slaughter house having been found to be defective.

Examinations were made of 2,793,882 pounds of meat and meat products of which 2,345 pounds were condemned. Examinations were also made of 1,566,419 pounds of animal organs of which 219,036 pounds were condemned.

In the livestock inspections, 151 markets were examined and 41,402 antemortem examinations were made.

MORE THAN 700 ACRES PLANTED TO BROCCOLI

MORE than 700 acres on two farms alone in the Eastern part of the State is planted to broccoli this year, according to reports to the Department of Agriculture. The product is packed in 12-bunch crates to the Philadelphia and New York markets. The average yield per acre is placed at 175 crates. One-third of the crop is shipped to quick-freezing plants.

A small acreage of broccoli was planted this year in Fayette County for experimental purposes.

YORK CO. FARMER IS HUSKING CHAMPION FOR 3rd SUCCESSIVE YEAR

PENNSYLVANIA'S leading competing corn huskers from 12 different counties had their day on October 24 at a farm of the Hershey Estates near Hershey when they entered into the annual competition for the selection of the State champion to compete for the National honors in Iowa. Favored with ideal weather, the 20 huskers, who survived the preliminaries conducted in the morning to enter the finals in the afternoon, made the ears fly as they wended their course through their allotted divisions. Encouraged by an attendance estimated at 6,000 people, the contestants entered the fray with a "do or die" spirit.

In spite of the high ability that was registered, it was not great enough to drive Stanley Yeager, the bachelor farmer of York County, from his throne. With a record of 30.27 bushels of corn husked in the 80-minute period, Yeager retained the State championship title for the third successive year. He beat his record of last year by slightly less than two bushels. His keenest rival, M. H. Fitz, also of York County, won second place with 28.26 bushels. Both men went to the National contest.

In the county contest, in which the contestants were chosen for the State event, Fitz won over Yeager by nearly two bushels.

The annual State event is sponsored by The Pennsylvania Farmer, and for the first time was given recognition by a State official when Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture presented a ribbon to the State Champion. In announcing the presentation, Secretary Light stated that he felt that agricultural events of that character should receive encouragement in that they tend to bring farm pursuits more to the public mind, and at the same time promote widespread interest, pleasure and goodwill among those engaged in agriculture.

The other contestants, their counties and their scores were: Harlow Mayer, Chester, 21.25 bushels; Curran Beshore, Juniata, 20.13; Philip Sidler, Montour, 23.24; Philip Hartman, Lebanon, 23.85; Joseph Seem, Lehigh, 20.37; Walter Morgan, Schuylkill, 21.94; D. I. Gerberick, Dauphin, 22.40; R. W. Beshore, Juniata, 28.18; E. W. McIntyre, Armstrong, 27.39; Warren Boyer, Berks, 22.91; Clarence G. Sholley, Lebanon, 22.58; Robert Evans, Montgomery, 16.11; W. H. Neff, Lancaster, 23.02; W. F. Jury, Dauphin, 19.90; Paul H. Keeney, Berks, 24.37; Karl A. Fry, Perry, 20.32; John Anderson, Montour, 20.86; and J. Stanley Stauffer, Lancaster, 25.89.

SUGGEST PROTECTION AGAINST SPLIT BARK

INQUIRIES are frequently received by the State Department of Agriculture concerning the splitting of bark on the trunks of ornamental trees. The majority of these cases involve trees of rather large size that have been recently transplanted, although this is not always the case.

Practically all such trees observed had developed cracks on the south-east side of the trunk or the side most exposed to the late winter and early Spring sun. In some instances, not only the bark, but the woody portion of the trunk had cracked open, with the bark usually rolled back, causing an ugly scar.

It is stated that these injuries are due to the rapid thawing and expansion of the exposed side of the trunk caused by the bright sunshine of early Spring or late Winter, and at a time when the trees had become solidly frozen during cold frosty nights. Unequal expansion due to thawing is held responsible for the cracking.

Trees may be protected against such injury by wrapping the trunk with burlap, tough paper, or other material before cold weather starts. The wrapping should remain in place throughout the Winter. It should extend from the ground up to the lower branches. Larger trees recently transplanted are likely to require this protection more than those which have become well established, according to the inspection bureau.

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CONTINUED INCREASE OF RANGE PARALYSIS IS MAJOR PROBLEM

ONE of the major problems confront- in the poultry industry today is owl or range paralysis, which has been rogressively assuming greater propor- ions over the past 10 years, according to he Department of Agriculture. The isease is said to be primarily of the ervous system, although other condi- ions such as blindness, tumors and eucotic blood changes are closely associ- ted with it. Whether, however, these onditions are all manifestations of the ame disease is said to be still a disputed uestion.

An ultra-microscopic filterable virus is eld responsible by most investigators, nd conclusive evidence is said to sub- antiate their claims. It is explained hat a filterable virus is an agent so small hat it cannot be seen even with a power- l microscope, and will pass through orcelain filters which hold back all her germs.

It is found that the disease occurs ually in birds from three to nine onths of age, but may be encountered chicks as young as five weeks. Birds ore than 18 months old are said to be rely affected. Paralysis is said to be ronic as a rule, usually affecting only a w birds at a time. The first sign of the ease which can be observed is a slight eness or drooping of one wing and equently a greyish discoloration of the s, known as the grey eye.

As the disease advances, it is stated the or wing becomes useless and the bird ally becomes incapacitated, with one extended forward and the other etched backward. The majority of the ected birds, it is said, die in two or ree weeks after the first symptoms have en noticed. It is found that birds rely recover from the disease.

According to the authorities, there is known remedy at the present time. ey advise the killing of affected birds soon as the first signs of the disease pear. These birds, however, are said be suitable for food provided they are good flesh. It is stated that there is no tification for selling off the entire flock the disease occurs, because at the time mptoms are observed, it is believed bable that the disease has run most of course.

Preventive measures recommended are ict sanitation during the early weeks of oding, and rearing chicks from parent ck that has not shown any evidence of e disease.

REPORT NINE CASES F BLACKLEG DISEASE

DURING the past year, only nine outbreaks of Blackleg in cattle have urred in Pennsylvania, according to Bureau of Animal Industry of the te Department of Agriculture. The ease, which soon causes death, is said be infectious and is largely confined to tain areas where the soil is infected h blackleg organisms. Animals more n two years of age are said to be rarely ected.

It is said that where the disease ap- rs, it is liable to occur with more or regularity. Vaccination of suscep- e animals is suggested as a treatment this practice should be followed each until it is known that the infection longer remains.

Carcasses of animals which have suc- bed to the disease, it is insisted, uld be destroyed—preferably by ning. Stables where such animals e died must be thoroughly cleaned disinfected, and where animals have in the field from the disease, straw hay should be scattered over the in- ed ground and burned in an effort to roy the germs.

Increase in Penna. Tobacco Crop

LATEST reports place the 1940 Penn- sylvania Seedleaf tobacco crop at 672,000 pounds as compared with 508,000 pounds in 1939. The average d per acre is placed at 1,360 pounds as pared with 1,320 pounds last year. Pennsylvania Havana seed crop is mated at 474,000 pounds as compared 459,000 pounds in 1939.

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MAPLE SYRUP EXHIBIT SHOWS PENNA. PRODUCT

AMONG the thousands of exhibits annually entered at the Pennsylvania Farm Show, which will be held January 20 to 24, which are distinctively of Pennsylvania production, is that of maple syrup. The product from this State has won national reputation, and the producers themselves attribute much of the great progress made in processing and marketing to the stimulus given by the State Farm Show over the past several years.

In judging maple syrup, taste, density and color are the prime factors. These qualities are largely decided by the time of the sap season, the method of processing and the care with which the product is prepared for market. In processing the sap, the weight is held at about 11 pounds a gallon when the liquid is at 60 degrees, which prevents souring or crystalizing of the syrup after the container is opened.

Indications are that the syrup exhibit at the next show will be of extensive proportions, and will give evidence of the high quality of the Pennsylvania product.

The Show Committee has again reminded exhibitors of the closing date for entries of livestock which is December 5, and of poultry entries, which is December 6.

APPLE BY-PRODUCTS BIG PENNA. INDUSTRY

REPORTS to the Department of Agriculture indicate that the 1940 apple canning season is rapidly drawing to a close. The processing of apples in this State into such by-products as canned sliced apples, apple sauce, apple butter, apple juice, jelly, mince meat and vinegar, has grown to such proportions in recent years as to place Pennsylvania in the front ranks with New York, Washington and Virginia as a leader in this industry.

The major portion of the industry is located in the Adams and Franklin county area, the largest apple cannery in this country being located at Biglerville, Adams County. Recently, additional apple products canneries have been established in other districts of the State —principally in Erie, Berks, Lehigh and Philadelphia counties.

The Agriculture Department points out that the apple canneries use the better grades of fruit and that most of the apples are purchased under State supervised inspection. It is also emphasized that Pennsylvania apple products rank exceedingly high in quality and are greatly in demand by the wholesale and retail distributors throughout the country.

Cabbage Production 80,000 Tons

THE domestic cabbage production in Pennsylvania this year is estimated to be 51,200 tons on 6,400 acres, compared with the 1939 production of 39,600 tons on 6,100 acres. The Danish cabbage production in this State this year is placed at 28,900 tons on 3,400 acres, compared with the production last year of 22,400 tons on 3,200 acres. Acreage and production are both above the 1929-38 average for the State for both types of cabbage.

PROPER CULTIVATION ADVISED TO COMBAT FARM WEED PROBLEM

THE necessity of the farmer using clean seeds for grain, grass and legume plantings is pointed to by the State Department of Agriculture if any progress is to be made in the control and eradication of weeds. Because bad weeds spread so rapidly from place to place, no single farm problem is more dependent on community cooperation than weed control, and since weed seeds are spread by wind, water, animals, birds, threshing rigs and movements of feed and seed, farmers cannot hope to keep their own farms clean when neighboring fields are badly infested.

It is suggested that the best method of eradication on the farm is intelligent use of clean tillage and of crops that offer real competition to weeds, or a combination of these methods.

Early fall plowing of fields that have produced grain is an aid in controlling all weeds, as this destroys a large number of Fall seedlings—but never plow under the weeds bearing mature seeds. They should be raked up and burned. It is an old saying that "One year's seeding is seven years weeding."

Some of the most troublesome weeds have great vitality and may lie in the soil for long periods, to germinate when brought to the surface by future cultivation.

Weeds should not be allowed to ripen, but should be killed while in the seedling stage when possible, for then the weeds die most easily and in the greatest numbers.

PENNA. POTATO CROP SHOWS HEAVY YIELD

LATEST reports of the Department of Agriculture place the 1940 potato crop at nearly 25 million bushels, with an average acre yield of 130 bushels, as compared with 120 bushels per acre last year. The crop this year is more than two million bushels greater than that of 1939.

With Pennsylvania ranking high among the potato producing states, much effort is constantly made to develop to a still higher plane the fine reputation held by potatoes grown in this State with the consuming public. Most of the potatoes are graded, and specially packed in a particular type of bag adopted by the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association.

To assure extension of the grading work, the Association, with the cooperation of the Department of Agriculture and the Agricultural Extension Service of State College, recently conducted four training schools in the Eastern section of the State, where grading instructions were given. The schools, first conducted four years ago, were attended this year by about 200 persons. It is planned to conduct schools in other sections later this season.

LATEST EDITION OF HANDBOOK AVAILABLE

THE 1940 edition of the "Handbook of Official Fruit and Vegetable Grades", which ranks high in demand among the publications of the State Department of Agriculture, is now available for free distribution. In addition to containing information relative to all grades of fruits and vegetables officially adopted for use in Pennsylvania, the manual records the acts of the State Legislature bearing on marketing and other pertinent information. Recent grade revisions as well as recently adopted grades in this State are also recorded.

Requests for copies of the book should be addressed to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Room 118, South Office Building, Harrisburg, Pa.

More Wheat in Storage

ACCORDING to the Federal-State Crop Report, issued by the State Department of Agriculture, stocks of wheat in interior mills, elevators and warehouses in Pennsylvania on October 1 amounted to 1,550,000 bushels, which is 100,000 bushels in excess of holdings at the same period last year.

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NEW APPLE CANNERY HAS HEAVY DEMAND FOR CANNED JUICE

THE unusual and immediate success attained by the newly established apple cannery at Boyertown by the Berks-Lehigh Cooperative Fruit Growers, where only apple juice is produced, is pointed to as an indication of the great possibilities of this branch of the apple growing industry. Although the plant was only recently placed in operation, the problem faced by the Cooperative organization is a greater supply of apples and not the sale of the product. Even before production was begun, orders had been received from various sources as the result of visits to the plant by buyers. At the present time, orders for thousands of cases of the apple juice are being filled for two of the largest drug store chains in the country.

The apple juice is marketed in enamel lined cans, bearing labels of the adopted brand name. The plant is equipped with the most modern machinery, and is believed to be the most modern apple juice plant in the country, employing methods not previously used in the industry. All apples are washed and sorted, assuring the use of only the best apples in making the product.

Noteworthy expansion of the apple product industry has been made during recent years. The further development of this branch of the business is receiving much attention in many quarters, since the great possibilities have been established. Greater development of the by-product business is seen as a means of eventually providing a market for a considerable portion of the apples which was formerly exported to Europe. This business has suffered greatly as the result of the war.

CONTEST PRODUCTION EXCEEDS 55 PERCENT

DURING the first month of the tenth Pennsylvania Official Egg Laying Contest, reports of the Department of Agriculture show that the birds have maintained better than 55 percent production with excellent egg size and shell texture, that the birds are in fine condition, and that there has been no mortality.

The 99 pens, totaling 1,287 birds, are of seven breeds, representing 65 breeders from 15 states, including California and Oregon. Upon being entered for the contest, each bird was examined for Standard Disqualifications, defects, disease and deformities, and only those passing a clean bill of health were accepted.

The daily routine was put into effect immediately, under which the trapnests are inspected every hour and the mash stirred twice daily. The birds have constant access to laying mash, water, grit, and oyster shell. At 11 o'clock each day, they receive a moist mash consisting of one half laying mash, one half mixture of ground cereals that is the equivalent of the scratch grain mixture, and powdered skim milk and water. At 1 o'clock, they receive clipped oats, which have been soaked in cold water for 24 hours. About one hour before going to roost, they receive scratch grain.

The time lighting switches are set to provide lights early enough in the morning to provide a thirteen hour working day. The pens are heated to keep the temperature between 40 and 50 degrees to prevent the birds suffering from sudden changes in temperature and humidity.

"WILD" BEE COLONIES NOT DISEASE SOURCE

LETTERS are frequently received by the Department of Agriculture suggesting the inspection of so-called "wild" bees for sources of disease. It is stated by the inspectors that these stray colonies are not an important factor in the control of bee disease as they will not survive if they become weakened by disease. However, it is pointed out that the beekeeper will maintain disease in the hive by feeding or adding bees to weakened colonies and, as a consequence, often cause the spread of the disease. The use of hives in which bees have died is also pointed to as a common but bad practice. Some of these conditions prevail in the "wild" bee colonies, it is pointed out.

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ADD SWINE BREED TO EXHIBITION LIST OF PENNA. FARM SHOW

FOR the first time, Spotted Poland China swine has a place on the exhibition list at the Pennsylvania Farm Show, to be held January 20 to 24. The breed, having been developed greatly in Pennsylvania during the recent past, is now recognized by the Farm Show Commission, and premiums have been listed in five classes in addition to three classes which have been established in the National Spotted Poland China Record Association Specials.

Hybrid Yellow Dent corn is also listed for the first time on the premium list, as is Farm Filler tobacco, which has been placed as a class under Type 41, Pennsylvania Seedleaf or Broadleaf cigar leaf tobacco department.

A part of the cabbage exhibit is also broken down into two classes, known as the Danish and Chinese types, and separate awards will be made in each class.

Five poultry organizations have planned to hold their annual meetings at the Farm Show Building during the Show week. They are the State meet of the White Wyandotte Club of America, National meet of the Crested Fowl Club of America, State meet of the Pennsylvania White Holland Turkey Club, the National meet of the American Buff Leghorn Club, and the Eastern Meet of the United Orpington Club of America.

The premium lists for the 1941 Show have been mailed, but any person interested who has not received a copy may procure the list by writing to the State Farm Show Commission, Harrisburg.

PLANTS DETERMINE FLAVORS OF HONEY

WITH the advent of the heavy honey consuming season, the Department of Agriculture has directed consumer attention to the differences in honey color, flavor and aroma. The flavors of honey are due to the aromatic substances found in the nectar of the flowers. Since honey varies from time to time in flavor, there is found to be confusion among the consumers as to the cause. The reason is that many different species of plants produce nectar which the bees gather, and that the nectar obtained from each species of plant may carry with it an individual color, flavor or aroma.

All these flavors are good, it is pointed out, but since taste preferences vary, some flavors are preferred to others. It is said to be the general rule that light colored honeys are mild in flavor, and the darker colored ones are stronger in flavor. Different sections predominate frequently in certain flavors, although as a rule all flavors are produced in all territories.

Among the lighter and milder flavors of honeys are those derived from certain clovers, sage, alfalfa and fireweed. Honey produced from the buckwheat flower is dark and spicy in flavor, and is frequently used in spice combinations, gingerbread and fruit cake.

REPORTS SHOW GOOD TURKEY CROP FOR '40 HOLIDAY SEASON

THERE will be no shortage of turkeys to adorn the festive boards at the holiday seasons this year, according to the Department of Agriculture. Reported figures show some increase over last year, when there were nearly 33 million turkeys raised for market.

The Pennsylvania turkey crop is placed at 856,000. Early marketing of turkeys, which began in October, accounted for a larger number of turkeys than in former years—about 12 percent of the crop having been disposed of. During this month, it is expected that 45 percent of the crop will be placed on the market, and that 33 percent will go to the block during December. The remaining 10 percent will be held for sales during January and February and later in the season.

For some time past, experiments have been conducted in looking to the production of a "streamlined" turkey, one smaller in weight, of good dressing quality and big broad breasts, and although these experiments have proved successful, the new type bird is not yet being produced on a commercial basis. This year, it is reported that the average turkey shows a slight increase in weight over that of last year.

Turkey raising over the past few years has advanced greatly as a commercial enterprise. Formerly, most of the turkeys came from the general farm, produced from home hatching. Today there are many farms devoted to turkey raising alone. However, this year there was recorded a decrease of 16 percent in hatching on those farms, while the "home" or general farm hatching increased to such an extent as to cause a slight increase in the total crop over that of 1939.

It is also noted that over the past few years, turkey has won for itself a place on the year-round menu, instead of being looked upon largely as a holiday season delicacy, which has brought much impetus to the industry. It retains, however, its enviable leadership on the holiday menu.

SEED ANALYSES SHOW HIGH SEED CONTENT

SOME indication of what might happen when poorly cleaned seeds are sown is revealed by the analysis of 118 samples of red clover seed recently completed by the seed laboratory of the Department of Agriculture.

The percentage of weeds in these samples varied from .01 percent to 11.06 percent, and the number of weed seeds from 5 to 3,676 per ounce. This means that if the seed containing the larger number of weed seeds were to be used at the rate of 10 pounds per acre, 122 weed seeds would be sown on every square yard.

Samples received direct from farmers usually showed the highest weed content, due, it is presumed, to lack of proper cleaning equipment. At the same time, it clearly shows the risk the farmer runs in using his own seed without having it properly cleaned.

Other interesting points brought out by these analyses are that some samples run as high as seven percent of other crop seeds, and a few contained over seven percent of inert matter. While the majority of samples ran 75 percent or better in germination, some were below 60 percent, and one sample germinated only 40 percent.

CABBAGE IS STORED FOR WINTER MARKET

REPORTS indicate that much of the cabbage crop in the Waterford or Erie County section is being placed in storage to be marketed during the Winter months because of the decreased demand at the present time. It is expected that all the cabbage will be harvested by December 1. It is expected that considerable cabbage will be stored generally by farmers. Light supplies of red and savoy cabbage continue to move to market in the Bucks-Philadelphia area.

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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SILVER ANNIVERSARY OF PENNA. FARM SHOW NOTED BY PROGRESS

THE Pennsylvania Farm Show of January 1941 will mark the 25th anniversary of the establishment of that enterprise, which has grown to be the largest Winter exhibition of its kind in the United States. Plans being made for the Silver Anniversary Show by the Farm Show Commission, of which John H. Light, Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, is Chairman, indicate that new records will be established in the number of entries and in attendance. The Show will be held from January 20 to 24.

When the Show was first inaugurated in 1917, it occupied 10,000 square feet of floor space. From that humble beginning, which at that time seemed rather pretentious, the annual exhibition has grown until today it occupies 515,000 square feet of floor space. More complete realization of the vast extent of that area might be had when it is stated that the Farm Show Building comprises 14 acres of space, the largest building of its kind in the United States devoted to farm enterprise exhibition purposes.

The Show has shown equally phenomenal growth in all lines. The total amount of premiums offered in the first Show was $735. The awards offered for the Show of 1941 aggregate $42,918, and the number of entries has grown from 440 in 1917 to 10,818 in the 1940 Show.

The present famous Farm Show Building was constructed in 1930, and the great Arena and ampitheatre was completed for the 1939 Show. During the first few years of the enterprise, the entries consisted of corn, fruit, wool, eggs, dressed poultry, vegetables, potatoes and butter. Honey and milk departments were added to the premium list in 1920, and in 1923 poultry became a feature of the competitive departments. In 1926, 4-H baby beef steers and vocational demonstration contests were added, maple products were entered for the first time in 1927, home economics in 1939, and horses, sheep, swine, beef and dairy cattle were established as regular departments in 1931. Commercial exhibit space expanded 25 times during this period, and an enviable reputation has been developed for the high standard of selection.

Establishment of the State Farm Show was the logical result of the great interest shown in Pennsylvania in the display of farm products as early as 1809, when the first cattle show in America was held in Philadelphia. The first local exhibition of farm products devised to reward farmers for their skill and industry was also held in that city and was staged in 1822. The following year, the first State Fair was held, and in 1828 the first local fruit and flower show was inaugurated. For more than a century, county fairs and local agricultural shows have been annual events of wide influence in Pennsylvania farm life, and to that influence is added the great educational value of the annual State Show.

HONEY CROP BELOW NORMAL

PENNSYLVANIA'S honey crop is estimated to be only about 50 percent of normal. Reports from every section of the State show low production. This condition is attributed to the unfavorable weather conditions during the spring which did not permit the bees to store surplus honey and also prevented an increase in bee population in the colonies. Reports from some sections state this year was the shortest honey season in 35 years due to rain and cloudy weather during the clover and buckwheat seasons.

Indications now are, however, that the bees are going into this Winter with good stores of food.

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13 CASES OF RABIES FOUND IN 42 TESTS

OF A total of 42 brains of animals examined for rabies during the month of October at the laboratory of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture, 13 were found to be positive. It was reported that 33 persons and 72 animals were bitten or exposed to rabid dogs in various areas of the State. The counties in which rabies were found to exist are Allegheny, Beaver, Bucks, Butler, Dauphin, Delaware, Fayette and Philadelphia.

During the month, the Bureau issued 12,800 individual dog and four kennel licenses. There were 294 prosecutions for dog law violations, and 2,066 stray and uncontrolled dogs were killed by police officers and 68 stray dogs were killed by agents of the Bureau.

A total of $2,112 was paid by the State in 153 claims for damages by dogs to livestock and poultry.

PENNA. POTATO CROP IS ABOVE AVERAGE

THE late Pennsylvania potato crop is better than average this year, according to reports following the completion of the digging of the crop. Variable yields in many localities are shown, but generally the quality is reported to have been good and grading shows a large percentage of No. 1's, although the size of the tubers is smaller by comparison with past years. In the Potter plateau and central areas, many good yields have been obtained, but some abandonment of acreage is reported in the former section due to freeze damage.

In the Somerset-Cambria area, yields and quality vary greatly, some being very good while some poor crops were reported.

CORN FOR PROCESSING SHOWS BIG INCREASE

PRELIMINARY estimates place the Pennsylvania production of snap beans for processing at 3,000 tons, as compared with 3,900 tons last year and 3,100 tons over the 10-year period to 1938. The harvested acreage this year is placed at 2,490, as compared with 2,160 in 1939 and the 10-year average of 2,420.

Production of sweet corn in this State for processing is placed at 25,300 tons, as compared with 19,400 tons last year, and a 10-year average of 11,800 tons. The harvested acreage is estimated to be 11,000 acres, which compared with 10,800 acres in 1939, and a 10-year average of 6,790. The yield per acre this year is indicated to be 2.3 tons as compared with 1.8 tons in 1939, and 1.7 tons during the 10-year period ending in 1938.

EXAMINE 185,896 SPECIMENS

EXAMINATION of 185,896 specimens were made during the month of October at the laboratory of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture. Chicken specimens led the list with 136,348, of which 136,230 were tests for Pullorum disease.

TEST 87,283 CATTLE FOR TWO DISEASES DURING ONE MONTH

DURING the month of October, 48,406 cattle in this State were tested for Bang's Disease, of which 1,893 were found to be affected, according to the report of the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture. Indemnities paid to the owners of the diseased cattle amounted to a total of $80,000.61, of which $44,286.69 was paid by the State, and the balance from Federal funds. This brings the total paid by the State since June 1, 1939 in Bang's Disease indemnities to $677,995.11.

The report shows that on the area plan, initial tests were made of 179 herds, comprising 1,970 cattle, and that 12.8 percent of the herds and three percent of the cattle were infected. Retests were made of 1,304 herds, consisting of 14,441 cattle, and 32.1 percent of the herds and 6.1 percent of the cattle were infected. Seventy Bang Disease Free Certificates were issued to owners whose herds had qualified, including four goat herds. There are now 5,262 Free Certified herds, including 23 goat herds in the State.

During the same period, 38,877 cattle and 194 goats were tuberculin tested, of which 77 cattle and no goats were found to be infected. For those cattle, indemnities amounting to $3,792.03 were paid by the State and $2,201.55 was paid from Federal funds.

Importations of cattle into the State during the month amounted to 7,589 head, and 474 cattle were exported to other states.

The Bureau also reports that during the month, 8,077 swine were vaccinated against hog cholera on 331 premises. Quarantines were placed against 33 premises as the result of the presence of the disease.

WARN DOG OWNERS OF HOOKWORM DISEASE

THE attention of dog owners, particularly in cases where large numbers of dogs are kept in close proximity, is directed by the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriculture to the concern which can be caused by Kennel Anemia or Hookworm disease. It is pointed out that dogs of all ages may be affected, but that animals of a few months of age are usually the chief sufferers. The symptoms of the disease vary according to the degree of infestation. Digestive disturbance is shown, quickly followed by anemia. The membranes of the eyes and mouth become pale, vitality is lost and the animal becomes weak. The coat becomes dry and harsh, the feet and legs become swollen and diarrhea is frequent

Hookworms are intestinal parasites, thread-like in appearance and from a third to three-quarters of an inch in length. They are white to reddish in color. The name is derived from the backward crook in the head. The mouth is provided with strong teeth or cutting plates, with which the worms bite into and hold onto the intestinal lining. The mouth is also provided with glands which produce an anti-coagulating substance which prevents the blood, on which they feed, from clotting.

It has been estimated that 100 worms can produce a daily loss of more than two-and-one-half ounces. In addition to this, whenever a worm changes its hold, a bleeding puncture is left which adds to the daily drain on the dog's system.

Infection is said to be acquired from ground or water which has been contaminated by infested dogs. Hookworms produce large numbers of eggs which pass to the ground. Minute worms or larvae develop, which are either ingested in contaminated food, or water, or they penetrate directly through the skin of dogs which come in contact with them.

CABBAGE SALES REACH PEAK

Sales of cabbage on the Philadelphia market reached their peak during the last half of October and amounted to approximately 50,000 bushels, as compared with about 25,000 bushels during the peak period last year, which was reached during the first half of November.

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HAVE 135 CLASSES FOR SHEEP, LAMBS AT PENNA. FARM SHOW

WITH 126 separate classes established in addition to nine 4-H club classes, in each of which prizes will be awarded, sheep and lambs occupy an important place in the Pennsylvania State Farm Show, which will be held January 20 to 24. The divisions comprise the Shropshire, Hampshire, Southdown, Oxford, Dorset, Cheviot, B and C types Merino, Rambouillet and the fat sheep and lamb and dress carcass divisions. In addition to the regular awards offered by the show, a number of prizes will be given by the various sheep associations.

Under each division, there are classes for individual rams and ewes of different ages, a flock and pen of lambs. A fine wool flock consists of one ram of any age, aged ewe, yearling ewe and ewe lamb. A medium wool flock consists of two ewes, one year old and under two years, two ewes under one year and one ram of any age. A breeder's young flock in medium wool breeds consists of a ram lamb and three ewe lambs all bred and owned by the exhibitor. A breeder's young flock in fine wool breeds consists of a yearling ram or ram lamb, two yearling ewes and two ewe lambs, all bred and owned by the exhibitor. A pen of lambs consists of two ram lambs and two ewe lambs. Each exhibitor will be limited to two entries in any one class and only one group prize will be paid to any single exhibitor.

Entries in the sheep department will close December 5. The judges will be P. V. Mackenzie of State College and J. B. Henderson of Hickory, Pa.

On January 1, this year, the sheep population of this State was placed at 404,000 and the number of lambs was 256,000. In 1939, the wool production was 2,842,000 pounds, with a value of $710,000. The income from sales of sheep and lambs was $1,099,000. During the year, 36,000 sheep and 103,000 lambs were shipped out of the state.

Present estimates indicate little change in the number of sheep, but anticipate a considerable increase in the value of wool this year. The average price last year was 25 cents a pound as compared with quotations of 40 cents a pound over the past several weeks.

INCREASE IS SHOWN IN GRADED POTATOES

POTATO growers in many of the important potato counties of Pennsylvania, realizing that the highest market returns are often received for graded potatoes shipped in from other states, have set up cooperative grading and marketing organizations in an effort to improve local demand for high quality Pennsylvania potatoes.

Many of these cooperative groups have sponsored numerous potato grading demonstrations and inspection schools, during this and recent seasons throughout the State, to educate Pennsylvania producers to the requirements of acceptable market quality. The extension specialists of State College and officials of the Bureau of Markets of the Department of Agriculture have assisted these local groups in this marketing program.

Numerous reports received at the Department of Agriculture indicate that the reputation of Pennsylvania potatoes is improving considerably over recent years, due in large part to the determination of Pennsylvania potato growers to improve their market quality and to their cooperative marketing efforts.

The work of the Federal-State Inspectors from the State Bureau of Markets has increased considerably this season, indicating a larger volume of properly graded Pennsylvania potatoes being marketed than in any previous year. The inspectors report consistently greater grower returns for the well-graded shipments over the prices being paid for "partly-graded" stock sold to truckers or local buyers.

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PENNA. RANKS FOURTH IN CANNING INDUSTRY USE BEST QUALITY

WITH the steady increase in official inspection for sale of fruits and vegetables has also been noted a tremendous growth of the cannery industry until today the Pennsylvania Canners' Association, representing nearly 100 canning plants, accounts for the purchase of approximately $20,000,000 worth of agricultural products annually from Pennsylvania producers. In 1930, 43,800,000 pounds of cannery products were purchased under inspection provided by the Department of Agriculture and in 1939 that figure had grown to a total of 250,000,000 pounds.

Through grading and inspection the consumer is assured of high quality, and this factor has resulted in the greatly increased consumption. But the improvement of the quality of products sold to the canners since the inspection of the official grading work was begun in this State has also been outstanding. In tomatoes alone, the average of the records of 1927 and 1928 show that only 49 percent of the products sold to canneries graded U. S. No. 1—44 percent, U. S. No. 2—and nine percent were culls. In a period of only seven years, these figures were changed to 76 percent No. 1 grade—No. 2 grade had dropped to 22 percent and only two percent were culls. This vast improvement meant an increase in one year of $71,740, in cash income to the tomato growers of this State.

Pennsylvania now ranks fourth among the greatest canning states, being surpassed only by California, New York and New Jersey. Another market for fruits and vegetables which is being greatly developed is that for freezing, and heavy sales are being made in this State for that purpose. Specialists predict that within the next few years, sale of fruit and vegetables will be divided equally among fresh, canned and frozen products.

CONDEMN 186 TONS OF ANIMAL PRODUCTS

A TOTAL of 47,645 ante and post-mortem examinations of animals were made by the Meat Hygiene Division of the Department of Agriculture during the month of October, resulting in the condemnation of 87 carcasses. Examinations for sanitation were also made at 883 establishments and eight slaughter houses were found to be defective. There were 3,165,771 pounds of meat and meat products examined, of which 2,009 pounds were condemned and 2,347,760 pounds of organs were examined, resulting in the condemnation of 370,477 pounds, making a total of 186 tons of animal products which were condemned.

Pennsylvania farmers sold the highest percentage of their 1939 wheat crop during the month of July when sales were 23 percent of the crop. August sales were second in volume, reaching 17 percent of the crop. The low point was reached in May when three percent of the crop was sold.

FIND BIG INCREASE IN CORN BORERS IN VARIOUS SECTIONS

A GREAT increase in the number of corn borers in infested areas of this State was found this Fall in surveys by the Department of Agriculture. The counties found to be most heavily infested were Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Erie, Montgomery and parts of Centre and Crawford. In several areas of Erie County, between 90 and 97 in each 100 corn stalks were found to be infested. This was also true in a less number of areas in Bucks and Montgomery counties.

There are two strains of the borer, that known as the single brooded strain, prevailing in the Western part and extending East to cover about seven-eighths of the State's area, and the two-brooded strain, which is found along the Eastern border of the State. The difference between the strains is that the latter produces two sets of moths during the corn growing season. The moths lay their eggs on the leaves of the corn stalk, the worm produced from the eggs eats into the stalk at the tassle, and proceeds downward through the stalk as its growth increases. The worms live through the winter in the base of the stalk and develop into the moth about July 1.

The only method through which the corn borer can be controlled is through the destruction of the worm, which makes its Winter home in the base of the corn stalk, and this, the Bureau specialists declare, can be accomplished by plowing under the stalks, burning them, or by having them well trampled into the manure by cattle if the fodder is used for roughage. Plowing under can be done either in the Fall or early Spring, but the stalks must be completely covered to effect the destruction of the worm.

The borer also attacks potatoes and finds Winter refuge in thick stemmed weeds, making it necessary for their control to destroy heavy weeds and potato vines in infested areas. Because of the thinness of the potato vine, a comparative few borers will cause much damage.

Control of the borer in infested areas, it is pointed out, is possible only when the effort is made on an area-wide basis.

STABLE VENTILATION SHOULD BE CHECKED

WITH the approach of Winter, it is suggested by the Bureau of Animal Industry that serious thought be given to the ventilation in the stable and to determine how much sunshine is available to young animals. It has been definitely established that animals require certain amounts of air space for the protection of their health. This space in the case of an average size cow is 500 cubic feet. They also require a gradual but constant change of air in the stable.

It is pointed out that a complete change of air should be accomplished frequently so that no moisture will collect on the walls or ceiling, or in the bedding or litter. These conditions occur when there is improper ventilation causing the air in the stable to be damp and warm, and any sudden draft of cold air may result in chilling the animals, causing head colds, intestinal disturbances, pneumonia or other diseases of the respiratory system.

The importance of sunshine in the growth and health of animals is stressed. It is known that the absence of the ultra violet rays carried by sunshine will not permit the animal to properly assimilate food, and growth may be retarded to such an extent that the animal will always remain unthrifty and unprofitable.

MUST HAVE CERTIFICATES

SALE of tubbed or living Christmas trees is not permissible without a certificate issued by the Department of Agriculture. Certification of this stock is necessary in the effort to control plant diseases and destructive insects and applies to all stock whether originating in this State or transported into the State.

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DAIRY, BEEF CATTLE ATTRACT INTEREST AT PENNA. FARM SHOW

THERE are probably no exhibition departments at the Pennsylvania State Farm Show, which will be held from January 20 to 24, which attract greater general interest than those of the dairy and beef cattle. Here, as in all other exhibits, are found the best of this State's products, entries being made of only the best in the various classes, which results in keen and interesting competition.

In the dairy cattle department the divisions comprise the Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein-Friesian and Jersey. In each of those divisions there are 24 classes consisting in each case of 12 exhibits of individual bull calves, bulls, heifers and cows; six exhibits of bull and cow champions and six exhibits of groups comprising from two to eight animals.

These exhibits are in addition to the 4-H dairy club classes, which comprise seven exhibits of each of the six breeds entered in the dairy department.

In the beef cattle department there are three divisions consisting of the Aberdeen-Angus in which there are 12 classes for bulls, 11 for cows and four group exhibits; the Hereford in which there are also 12 classes for bulls, 11 for cows and four group exhibits; and the Shorthorn in which there are 13 classes for bulls, 12 for cows and four group exhibits. These are in addition to the 4-H club baby beef classes which also include exhibits of each of the three breeds.

What always proves an interesting and exciting phase of the windup of the great show is the auction, at which exhibition steers in the 4-H Club classes are sold, competition in bidding for the grand champion always running high, and resulting in an unusually attractive price.

DEFINE QUANTITY OF LEGAL BUSHEL IN PA.

AS a result of the numerous inquiries received by the Department of Agriculture from growers of and dealers in farm products regarding the legal quantity contained in a bushel, a further explanation of the regulations has been issued by the Department.

In selling potatoes, apples, onions, and other fruits and vegetables in the original standard container, the legal volume is measured by cubic volume and not by weight. This change was made by the passage of the Volume Bushel Bill by the Legislature in 1937, which specified that only after the contents of the original package have been broken must the contents be sold by weight rather than by volume. It is further stated by Department officials that in the sale of apples, there is a variation in the weight of a full bushel, depending upon the variety and size of the fruit. Apples will vary in weight from 40 to 48 pounds, although the legal weight of a bushel in this State is 45 pounds.

In answering the inquiry of what constitutes a legal bushel, the Department explains that a basket containing 2,150.42 cubic inches, or 32 quarts of dry measure, heaped level full, contains a legal bushel of fruit or vegetables regardless of the weight.

COMPARE USE IN PA. OF HORSES, TRACTORS

IN a survey released by the Department of Agriculture, a comparison is made between the use of tractor and animal power in various operations on Pennsylvania farms in 1939. It is shown that in making the land, (which includes plowing with mold board and disk plows, harrowing, bedding and middle busting), tractors were employed to do 42 percent of that work, while 58 percent of the work was done with horse power. In disking, the percentages were 57 by tractor power and 43 by horse power. That ratio was directly reversed in the case of harrowing, which included the use of both spike and spring tooth harrows. Tractor power was used to drill only 10 percent of the acreage planted, but was employed on 48 percent of the acreage to draw harvesting machines.

The survey also shows that 69 percent of the manure spread in the State was done with the manure spreader.

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SUGGEST METHODS TO GUARD AGAINST SHIPPING FEVER

SINCE many farmers engage in the fattening of steers during the Winter months, the Department of Agriculture has issued a warning to guard against the ravages of Hemorrhagic Septicemia, more commonly known as shipping fever. It is advised that there is far greater economy in the purchase of relatively thin, but well bred and healthy cattle, but to avoid those which are emaciated.

Unthrifty cattle are particularly susceptible to shipping fever, but the germ does not thrive generally in cattle which are in good condition. The losses are relatively greater during the Fall and Winter months and the severe losses which occur in the transit of cattle has led to the designation of the disease as "shipping fever."

Experience has shown, it is stated, that the method of handling and feeding cattle in transit has a distinct bearing on the susceptibility of the animals to infection, and that weather conditions are of great importance. It is further suggested that when cattle are received, water should be withheld from them until they have rested and eaten dry hay. As a precaution, it is also recommended that newly purchased cattle should be isolated from the native cattle for a period of several weeks.

APPLES ARE HIGH IN VITAMIN C CONTENT

THAT raw apples provide a sufficient supply of the essential health vitamin C, which is generally credited to citrus fruits, is pointed out in a statement by the Department of Agriculture in which it is insisted that apples can truly be termed a health fruit. It is stated that the value of the apple as a food is not confined to its vitamin C content, but that it provides other important qualities such as pectin, an alkaline residue, mineral salts and bulk which are not found in many other fruits. According to health authorities these health giving properties make the apple unique among fruits, and it should occupy a leading place in the diet.

Pennsylvania grown apples hold a high place in quality, and through inspections and grading under the direction of the Department of Agriculture and the vast promotional work done by the growers, they have won an enviable national reputation.

DEPT. IS CHECKING POTATO LABELING

PROPER grade labeling of all potatoes in closed packages sold in this State is now being checked by the Department of Agriculture, it is announced. The Potato Marketing Law makes compulsory the branding or tagging of all closed packages of potatoes packed, transported, or offered for sale or sold in this State. The Department also points out that an error on the part of the grower or shipper in marking the package does not relieve the dealer from responsibility under the law.

GIVE SUGGESTIONS ON BUYING, ROASTING OF HOLIDAY POULTRY

POULTRY, particularly turkey, and Christmas are synonymous. A great proportion of the public making purchases at this season, the Department of Agriculture has issued an explanation of the various classifications under which poultry is sold. It may be sold as live, blood and feather dressed, or full dressed and drawn ready for the pan. There is usually a variation in price, but many buyers are apt to be attracted by price and misinterpret the various conditions under which the sales are made.

A bird ready for the pan may be 25 to 30 percent less in weight than when alive, and as the degree of dressing progresses, the sale price per pound must increase. It is pointed out as an example that a 10-pound turkey which cost 25 cents per pound live weight may have a loss of two and one half pounds in the dressing process. On the same price ratio, therefore, the turkey if fully dressed would sell for 34 cents a pound.

Poultry must be sold by weight and not as a unit. It is, however, permissible to sell a unit at a specified price, but the weight must be given so that the price per pound may be known.

Suggestions are also made for the roasting of turkeys. The bird should be placed breast down in a roasting pan which has a rack. If no rack is available, roasting the turkey on its side is preferable to roasting it breast up. In the breast down position, the bird will be roasted without drying out the breast. The pan should not be covered nor should water be added.

In roasting large turkeys, the oven temperature should be 250 degrees, while for small birds it should be 350 degrees. A 10 to 13 pound turkey requires three to four hours, but a 20 pound turkey will require seven to eight hours roasting. Frequent basting with butter applied with a brush is essential to procure the golden brown finish. Turning the turkey every half hour in the case of a small bird, and once an hour in the case of a larger one, is also essential for the best results.

FIVE NEW CANNERIES INDICATED FOR PA.

ESTABLISHMENT in this State of five new canneries next year, all of them by nationally known concerns, is indicated in reports received by Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture. In addition to the new plants, it is considered probable that a number of existing plants will be increased in size to provide greater capacity to meet the continued upward trend in demand.

There are a number of factors which make this State ideal for canning operations, and it is these factors which are causing more concerns to look favorably upon the establishment of Pennsylvania branches. Among those factors are ideal climatic conditions for the growing of high grade fruits and vegetables, the highly fertile farms and their efficient operation, and the close proximity to the largest markets.

Secretary Light pointed out that there would be no difficulty in producing the greater quantity of produce required for extension of the canning industry, as farmers will be ready to meet any demand as the average cash returns from canned crops is greater than from most farm crops.

PENNA. RANKS SECOND IN ICE CREAM MFG.

PRELIMINARY figures for 1939 on the production of manufactured dairy products show that Pennsylvania ranks second in this important industry, according to the Department of Agriculture, being exceeded only by New York. These figures also indicate that in that period, ice cream manufactured in this State showed an increase of five percent and is estimated at 39,918,000 gallons.

The indicated trend in the production of both evaporated and condensed milk products showed a decline of 15 percent in the State as compared with the year previous.

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PENNA. FARM SHOW HIGHLY APPROVED AS EXHIBITION CENTER

THE extent of the appreciation by exhibitors of the value of the Pennsylvania Farm Show as an exhibition center is seen in the fact that contracts have already been signed for most of the space allotted for commercial exhibits for the show which will be held from January 20 to 24. Further proof of this value is shown by the fact that a large percentage of the exhibitors return each year.

There are 870 spaces for commercial exhibits occupying a total of 100,000 square feet of floor space. The extent of this vast area might be better appreciated when it is realized that it is nearly two and one-half acres.

With the attendance at the show passing the half million mark exhibitors are in a position to reach a larger number of potential buyers at the show than through any similar source and they devote much effort and spare no expense in arranging the exhibits in order that they might make the greatest possible appeal. They are not only arranged from a sales standpoint of view but offer much of an educational value as well.

The increasing popularity of the show among business establishments is noted this year by the number of concerns which have contracted for space for the first time. Among these concerns the list up to this time shows 16 concerns which have not previously had exhibits and their products include threshing machines, silos, Diesel engines, building cloth, barn equipment, feeds, sprayers, hybrid corn, ranges, stokers and water conditioners.

Great interest is shown in the displays on the part of the public because of the great variety. They include equipment for every phase of farming, building materials, musical instruments, stokers, automobiles and trucks, orchard supplies and equipment, seeds, household and electrical equipment, feeds and many other lines of products.

In addition to the commercial exhibits are a number of purely educational value among which are the displays by the following State Departments: Game Commission, Forests and Waters, Commerce, Welfare, Labor and Industry, Public Instruction, Health and Agriculture in which displays are arranged by the bureaus of Plant Industry, Animal Industry, Food and Chemistry and Markets. There is also an exhibit by the Agricultural Extension Service of the Pennsylvania State College.

LICENSE RENEWALS NECESSARY BY JAN. 1

MANUFACTURERS and dealers who operate under the Pennsylvania Pure Food and Drug Act were reminded today by the Bureau of Foods and Chemistry of the Department of Agriculture that 1941 licenses must be procured before January 1. Those requiring licenses are manufacturers of bakery products, ice cream, oleomargarine, fertilizer, lime products for agricultural purposes, feeding stuffs, insecticides and fungicides. Licenses are also required by wholesalers and retailers of oleomargarine as well as restaurants, or any eating place where that product is served.

About 20,000 license applications have been mailed by the Bureau and a great number have already been renewed. The present licenses expire December 31, and those operating without a new license on or after the first of the year will be subject to prosecution.

In addition to those lines of businesses, licenses and registration certificates are also required by bottlers and canners of carbonated beverages and still drinks which comprise fruit juices. At the present time there are about 1,700 of these licenses in effect. They, however, are in force for one year from the date on which they are issued and can be secured at any time. All concerns which sell their products in this State, even if produced outside the State, must be registered.

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REPORT PROGRESS IN PA. POTATO LABELING HELP TO INDUSTRY

THAT great progress has been made in the method of marketing the Pennsylvania potato crop and in having the public demand potatoes labeled according to their grade is indicated in reports to Secretary John H. Light, of the Department of Agriculture. The value of grading and labeling is accepted by grower and dealer to the point that reports of the agents of the Department who enforce the Potato Grade Labeling Act, report that practically all markets in the State show potatoes of better grade than in any previous year. As a result the demand for Pennsylvania potatoes is greater than in former years.

In commenting on this marked improvement, Secretary Light stated that it is evidence of what can be accomplished through concerted action by growers individually and through their organizations working with the Department of Agriculture and the State College Extension Service. He further declared that the continuation and extension of this cooperative effort to further these great marketing improvements will do much to strengthen and stabilize the potato industry in this State.

Pennsylvania has for years been one of the principal potato producing states and with the progress being made in grading and labeling this State's products are meeting with constantly increased demands.

APPLES IN STORAGE BELOW LAST YEAR

REPORTS to the Department of Agriculture indicate that the quantity of apples in storage in this State on November 1, was 50,000 bushels below the storage figure on that date last year. Reports also show the price range to be from 20 to 30 percent higher than a year ago, but at that time prices were considered unusually low. The present demand for Pennsylvania apples is said to be considerably more active than in 1939.

The principal varieties now in storage and which will be available during the next four to five months on Pennsylvania markets are the Stayman, York, Rome, Delicious and Winesap.

PA. FARM HENS SHOW HIGHER PRODUCTION

ALTHOUGH there were only 20,000 more laying hens on the farms in this State at the end of October this year as compared with the same period last year, the number of eggs produced during the month exceeded the figure for October 1939 by four million, registering the highest average rate of production per layer on record for that month. The number of hens this year was placed at 13,758,000.

NO CURTAILMENT OF GYPSY MOTH WORK DURING WINTER TIME

WINTER weather is not the signal for curtailment of the activities of the Department of Agriculture in its efforts to eradicate the Gypsy Moth. In fact that is the season during which the work is carried on intensively as pointed out by Secretary John H. Light.

The Gypsy Moth was first found in this State in the vicinity of Pittston and through the constant efforts of the Department it has been confined to the area in that region, largely in the Pocono Mountains, comprising an estimated 2,800 square miles. The infested area is under strict quarantine, no materials, plants or trees being permitted to be shipped out of or within the section unless they have been inspected by Department agents. The quarantine includes mine props, trees, shrubbery, junk materials and even railroad cars which might have been stored on sidings over a period of time.

Since the eradication work has been carried on the infestation has been materially reduced and some sections of the area have been released from the quarantine. A constant watch is kept, however, over the surrounding sections and if the moth might be found it is immediately eradicated.

During the Winter months scouting crews comprising from 10 to 15 men systematically cover designated sections of the infested region to find the moth egg masses. They clean up debris and accumulations of junk. They examine every article and growth where the egg masses might be found and that includes in addition to trees, plants and shrubbery, tin cans, discarded automobile tires, old pipes and many other unused articles. Examination is made of trees, a reflecting glass turned toward the sun frequently being employed to distinguish any suspicious looking growth on the higher parts of the tree. Whenever egg masses are found they are treated with a solution to destroy them and in this operation it is often necessary for the scouts to employ climbing irons and ropes to reach the higher and spreading branches. Through the treatment the egg mass is discolored but left to remain.

During the latter part of May and through June, the period during which the moth caterpillar feeds, the areas over which the scouts operated during the Winter are sprayed. In the event that some of the eggs were not destroyed in the treatment, the spraying destroys the moth caterpillar which might have been hatched.

After the spraying of the Winter scouted area, the spraying operations are carried on through other sections of the infested region. The work is carried on from the outer edges of the infested section toward the center to guard against the spread of the moth. Since July when the scouting work began for the current year, Secretary Light stated that about 40,000 acres have already been covered.

ADVICE FOR DRYING FRUITS, VEGETABLES

MUCH damage is caused each year to fruits and vegetables, dried in the home, by insect pests, mostly by worms which are the young stages of insects. Methods of guarding against these losses are suggested by the Department of Agriculture, which advises that dried fruit and vegetables should be placed in the oven and kept in a temperature of from 130 to 140 degrees for about one hour, after which fruits should be placed in air-tight containers and vegetables should be placed in tight bags. The heating process will destroy any insect eggs which might be present.

It is further suggested that small containers be used, permitting the use of all the food when the container shall be opened. Food remaining in a jar or bag after it has been opened may become infested.

This treatment applies only to vegetables prepared for food and not to beans or peas which are to be held for seed.

PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN

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John H. Light, Secretary of Agriculture

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LIVESTOCK EXHIBITS AT PA. FARM SHOW TOTAL 1,312 HEAD

TOTAL figures of the final roundup show that 1,312 head of livestock will on exhibition and entered in the vari- s competitive classes at the Pennsyl- nia Farm Show to be held January 20 to 24, Secretary of Agriculture and Show Commission Chairman John H. Light announced today. The cattle are entered by 191 different exhibitors. About 80,000 square feet of space is devoted to the live stock displays.

The largest department is that of dairy cattle in which 368 head are listed including the 4-H Club entries. Sheep ran a close second with 361 entries showing an increase of 76 head over last year. There are a total of 265 hogs entered as mpared with 240 last year.

That horses still hold an important ace on the farm is shown by the fact at 100 head will be exhibited by 15 ferent exhibitors. There will be 120 ef cattle on display and 100 baby beef ttle entered by the 4-H clubs.

The number of cattle entered in the rious breeds and the number of exibitors is as follows: Dairy Cattle— Ayrshire, 10 exhibitors; 60 Brown iss, 14 exhibitors; 63 Guernseys, 18 hibitors; 139 Holstein-Friesian, 32 hibitors; 52 Jerseys, 14 exhibitors.

Beef Cattle—34 Aberdeen-Angus, 4 hibitors; 39 Herefords, 3 exhibitors; Shorthorns, 3 exhibitors. Sheep— Shropshire, 7 exhibitors; 64 Hampire, 6 exhibitors; 49 Southdown, 7 hibitors; 10 Oxfords, 1 exhibitor; 29 orsets, 3 exhibitors; 53 Cheviots, 4 hibitors; 67 Merino, 4 exhibitors; 18 ambouillet, 2 exhibitors.

Swine—47 Berkshire, 10 exhibitors; Chester Whites, 7 exhibitors; 37 uroc-Jersey, 2 exhibitors; 70 Hampires, 15 exhibitors; 27 Poland China, 7 hibitors; 9 Spotted Poland China, hich have been entered as a separate eed in the Pennsylvania Farm Show for e first time, three exhibitors. In addion to those entries 26 swine are listed the various breeds as exhibits in the cational class.

In the horse department 59 Belgians e entered by 11 exhibitors and 41 rcherons by 4 exhibitors.

146,675 SPECIMENS EXAMINED IN MONTH

HE laboratory of the Department of Agriculture examined a total of 6,675 specimens of various kinds durg the month of November, according to e report of Secretary John H. Light. hicken specimens led the list, numberg 103,935 with cattle specimens holding cond place, numbering 42,253.

Included in the examinations were ose made of 22 brains of animals for bies, eight of which were found to be ected by the disease. It was reported at 27 persons and 25 animals were tten by or exposed to the rabid dogs. e counties in which rabies were diagsed are Allegheny, Beaver, Dauphin, laware and Fayette.

EGG PRODUCTION IS 56.38 PERCENT

AT the end of the ninth week of the Pennsylvania Official Egg Laying ntest, the total number of eggs proced was 36,479 from the 1,027 birds, a production of 56.38 percent. The erage number of eggs per bird was 99. Production of the highest pen date is 669 eggs. A pen producing eggs led in production for the week.

16,221 DOG LICENSES ISSUED DURING NOV.

DURING the month of November the Department of Agriculture issued ,221 individual dog licenses and four nnel licenses, Secretary John H. Light announced. During that same period 061 stray and uncontrolled dogs were lled by police officers for which they re paid a total of $2,061. for their rvices. Agents of the Department reorted having killed 27 additional dogs.

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"BLACKHEAD" MOST DISASTROUS DISEASE AFFECTING TURKEYS

THE most destructive disease with which turkey growers are confronted, it is pointed out by the Department of Agriculture, is infectious enterohepatitis. The disease is more commonly known as blackhead from the fact that the heads of some infected turkeys turn black before death. The discoloration, however, is not characteristic of the disease and is much less frequently observed than is commonly supposed.

Blackhead is a widespread disease and apparently exists in practically every section where turkeys are raised. The greatest losses occur in young turkeys from one to five months of age. The Department points out that while the disease is especially disastrous in turkeys it may also cause severe losses among grouse, quail, pheasants and peafowl. Chickens may also become infected but they are usually much more resistant to the infection than turkeys and may in fact be carriers of the disease without showing evidence of it. Knowledge of this fact, Department officials point out, is important from the standpoint of control and accounts for the well-known observation that when turkeys and chickens are raised together, turkeys are almost certain to become infected with blackhead.

After the organism of blackhead gains entrance to the blind intestines by way of the mouth, it multiples rapidly and penetrates into the walls of the pouches causing severe damage to the tissues. A few days later the organism is carried through the blood stream to the liver where it produces the round, sunken, yellowish areas which are typical of the disease.

The outward symptoms are dullness, drooping wings, ruffled feathers and yellow-colored droppings. Older birds may recover from an attack of the disease but they will continue to discharge the organism in their droppings, causing them to be a constant source of danger to other birds. It is stated that because of its destruction to tissue the disease does not respond to medicinal curatives and that prevention is the only successful method of control. Sanitation is the essential feature and it is advised that young and mature turkeys be kept separated on clean ground at considerable distance from chickens.

EGG-FEED RATIO NOW FAVORS POULTRYMAN

ACCORDING to compilations made by the Department of Agriculture the egg-feed ratio is more advantageous to the poultryman than has been the case in more than a year. At the present time the cost of 100 pounds of poultry feed is equal to the value of seven dozen eggs as compared with requiring nine dozen of eggs to purchase that amount of feed at this season in 1939. This is attributed largely to the decreased number of laying hens as compared with last season which has brought an increase in the price of eggs.

EFFORTS HAVE KEPT POTATO WART FROM INFESTING FARMS

AS a result of the intensive activities by the Department of Agriculture in the control of potato wart, the disease has been prevented from spreading to any commercial potato farms in this State, Secretary John H. Light has announced. The disease has been confined to gardens in areas where control measures are constantly being enforced by Department agents.

During this season a section in Onilenda, Cambria County, comprising 16 abandoned gardens was added to the quarantined area. Agents of the Department destroyed all growth and spaded the land in cooperation with the land owners. In line with the course pursued in attempting to eradicate the disease, the agents will plant those gardens to an immune variety of potatoes next Spring. After the harvesting of the crop the soil will be treated and the following Spring a variety of potatoes known to be susceptible to the disease will be planted which will show if the land is still infested. This course will be followed for three years during which inspections are made and if after that time there is no evidence of the disease the quarantine originally placed on the area will be lifted.

During the next season about 100 gardens in which the disease has been found will be test planted by the Department. When the disease is found the area is spot treated and kept under inspection for a minimum period of four years. After that time periodic inspections are made to prevent a possible recurrence of the disease.

Inspection is also made by the agents during the Fall and Winter months of all seed potatoes in those areas and potatoes which are found to be diseased or of a prohibited variety are ordered to be withheld from planting.

The wart has been confined to small areas in Cambria, Schuylkill, Carbon, Clearfield, Somerset, Luzerne and Sullivan counties.

ADD NEW AREAS TO ERADICATE BARBERRY

EFFORTS of the Department of Agriculture to eradicate black stem rust which is prevalent throughout many sections of this State are being extended to include additional areas. Preliminary work is now under way to organize crews in Lancaster County who will operate in that and adjoining counties, Secretary John H. Light of the Department of Agriculture has announced.

Attempts to eradicate the disease which infects growing grains, is centered in the destruction of the common barberry, sometimes known as the European Barberry from which the disease is known to spread. During the past month department agents destroyed 124,417 barberry bushes on 153 properties, Secretary Light stated. In this work 81,821 pounds of salt was used. Since the beginning of the eradication program nearly 12 million barberry bushes have been destroyed in this State. This species of barberry was originally brought to this country from Europe and was used for the extraction of materials which were used in the making of dyes.

Eradication work is now being carried on in Bradford, Crawford, Cumberland, Huntingdon, Lackawanna, Centre, Susquehanna, Tioga, Erie, Warren and Wayne counties.

STOCK OF PA. TOBACCO

ACCORDING to the Crop Reporting Service the stock of Pennsylvania Seedleaf tobacco on October 1 totalled 94,044,000 pounds of which 90,194,000 pounds was unstemmed and 3,850,000 pounds was stemmed.

Monthly sales of the 1939 corn crop by Pennsylvania farmers averaged from six to eleven percent throughout the year, reaching the high point in March, and the low point in December.

The value of the seeds planted each year by Pennsylvania farmers and gardeners is placed at eight million dollars.

End of Volume